



CMO REPORT

HANK STILES
CHIEF MECHANICAL OFFICER

This time of year there is a lot going on with train rides, locomotive rentals and lots of visitors to the museum. In the Mechanical Department much is happening as well. At this point we have seven locomotives in service and this gives the Rent a Locomotive people a good selection from which to choose from.

For the May Locomotive Maintenance Clinic, the people helping out were: Chuck Barker, Ed Powell, Jim Gidley, John Reese, Gordon Wollesen, Steve Habeck, Dave Stares and myself.

For the June clinic the people helping were Dwight Wolfinger, Eddie Chase and myself.

The shop continues to be improved thanks to Tom Graham and the many people he has received help from, this helps out by making our time more productive. Because of this our locomotive fleet continues to improve, as one hand washes the other.

The WP 64004 boxcar which is used to store EMD locomotive parts has had the end without the shelves cleaned out in anticipation of building more shelves. After this is finished we can start the task of inventorying our parts so we know what we have and where it is. Dave Stares has agreed to set up an inventory system on the computer. This was on my wish list and I now have proof positive that wishes do come true.

Now for my second wish, I would like to ask for volunteers to help Dave with this task. It would help if several people would step forward making the work go faster and it would be more fun with a group of people. This is an important thing to do; it is one more step towards a professional shop facility that we can be proud of.

Please consider coming up to the museum and volunteering your time, not only will you have the

chance to help make our museum a success, you will have the chance to work with some fine people. There is a multitude of things to do, so you can always find something that strikes your fancy. We always have fun and your expenses are tax deductible, what more could you ask for.

See you at the museum...

—Hank “Flat Iron” Stiles

—GENERAL FUND DONATIONS—

Bruce Lyons, Erik Frodsham, Michael Blum, Richard Rowe, Rick Schonfelder, John O'Malley, Robert Verity, Bruce Lyons, Thomas Lewis, Scott Thompson, David Jacobs, Tim Diaz, Roger Verity, Robert Blanch, Kent McDougall, Kurt Combe, and Ed Benjamin. We thank them all for their generosity in helping our museum.

NORM NOTES...

DONATIONS

Thanks to United Testing Group of Reno for donating the results of our annual testing of crankcase oil in our operating locomotives. To Steven Holmes for donating a copy machine for the Operating Office. To Mountain Glass of Portola for donating replacement glass for locomotive air gauges broken due to vandalism and to Red Caboose for the donation of a large number of HO model car kits. We appreciate their thoughtfulness.

EVENT

On the weekend of October 3 and 4, the Feather River Highway (SR-70) between Oroville and Hallelujah Junction (Hwy-70 & Hwy-95 east of Portola) will be dedicated as a "Scenic Byway". Dedication ceremonies will be held near Oroville, at selected sites through the Canyon, at Quincy, Portola and at Hallelujah Junction. It is expected the Portola dedication event will be held at our museum. The Scenic Byway designation will appear on signs on the route and on highway maps. This has the potential of attracting more visitors to our museum. Lolli Bryan and Norm Holmes have attended several of the committee meetings held in Belden Town.

MISCELLANEOUS

Tim Ellis wants to correspond about WP and/or

Australian Railways. tim ellis@rnv.gld.gov.au

CORRECTION

In the last issue of *The Train Sheet* we stated a change in the law where contributions of stock at their appreciated value as a tax deduction would end on June 30, 1998. We have since learned that this change applied only to certain private foundations and did not apply to donations to non-profit organizations such as ours. We still welcome any stock (or cash) donations to our endowment fund. Your gift will be acknowledged with interest and/or dividends earned will be used to fund a paid Director for the museum.

SURVEY

We have recently participated in a survey of our museum. The survey, called Museum Assessment Program (MAP), helps the museum reach its full potential. MAP 1, which is the program we selected, reviews the museum's entire management and operations. The program is funded from a federal grant through the American Association of Museums. We are eagerly awaiting the results.

Another survey conducted through a grant from the United States Forest Service through the Plumas Corporation (a business promotion arm of Plumas County) will commence shortly and focus on a business and site plan for the museum.

RECORDING SESSION

On June 17 and 18, employees of the Lionel Corporation made sound recordings of some of our diesel locomotives. They particularly wanted to record the start up, rev up, shut down, horn and bell sounds from our WP GP20, #2001. Lionel will introduce a new model of this locomotive in the near future and wanted authentic sounds to go with it.

Other units recorded were Alco FPA-4 #6776 and GP7 #707. Several different diesel horns were also recorded including a rare Hancock air chime that was placed on SP 2873 for the occasion. If you buy Lionel digital sounds, chances are they were recorded at Portola.

WANTED ITEMS

Among things we could use for our museum are: a wire welder, powered pipe threader, file cabinets, steel shelving and a 20' overseas container. We can

always use tools of various kinds. Contact the museum if you have any of these items to donate.

MEMORIAL

We were saddened to learn of the sudden death of a very active member, David Cox. He died in his sleep June 4, after a day of railfanning. David was active in the WPRRHS and had an extensive collection of WP MoW equipment information and photographs. He certainly will be missed.

COMING EVENTS

In conjunction with California's Sesquicentennial celebration, the California State Railroad Museum will hold "Railfair 99" in Old Sacramento June 18-27. The NRHS and R&LHS will be holding conventions at the same time and this is expected to be the big event of the year. A Railfair Hot Line has been established at (916) 445-6645. We will probably have one of our diesel locomotives at the event.

WINNER ANNOUNCED

Trains Unlimited, Tours and the Feather River Rail Society are pleased to announce the winner of the 10th Annual drawing for a free trip on any Trains Unlimited, Tours North American tour. The winning ticket was drawn on May 2. FRRS member Joseph Harper of Monterey, California is the lucky railfan this year. It did not take Joe very long to decide to go on the White Pass and Yukon Spectacular Tour, which will operate September 17-20, and includes four charter trains in Alaska, British Columbia and the Yukon. Joe will also receive free roundtrip airfare on Canadian Airlines between Vancouver, BC, and Whitehorse, Yukon, courtesy of Trains Unlimited, Tours.

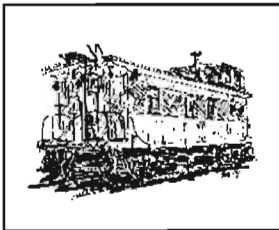
We want to thank everyone who has purchased fund raising tickets over the years. All ticket sales go into the Portola Railroad Museum Building Fund. This fund raising drive has been so successful that we are pleased to announce another drive and drawing which will be held for 1999 and the winning ticket will be drawn on March 6, 1999. Five tickets will be mailed to all members late this summer.

GIFT SHOP NEWS

Dave and Linda Dewey rode the *Mt. Shasta Daylight* train on June 20 and did a brisk business selling

museum merchandise. Norm and Barbara Holmes worked the *Great Pacific Railroadiana* show in Sacramento on June 28 and while sales were slow several contacts were made for future activities for the museum. We still have *Western Pacific Cars and Locomotives* in stock, the book sells for \$24.95. *Trains' Magazine* video tape on the Feather River and the Bay Area are also available — \$29.95 plus tax and shipping.

—Norm Holmes



CABOOSING BY HAP MANIT

May02 — Doug Morgan, Hank Stiles, Jim Gidley, Chuck Parker, and John Reese loaded Whiting jacks for transportation to Quincy.

May03 — Doug Morgan, Steve Habeck, Norm Holmes, and John Reese loaded GE 44-ton Quincy Railroad #3 on our flat car.

May05/6 — John Reese and Ken Iverson prep & paint battery racks.

May06 — Doug Morgan worked on office car.

May07 — John Reese replaced lock on old Pullman car.

May08 — School group ride, Bruce & Sue Cooper, Gordon Wollesen, Skip Englert, and Ken Iverson helped. Ken Roller conducted tour.

May09 — Ken Iverson and Meg Evans painted battery stands.

May11 — School group ride, Bruce & Sue Cooper, Gordon Wollesen, and Ken Iverson. Doug Morgan worked on office car.

May14 — Elder Hostle tour. Skip Englert and Ken Roller conducted tour with Lolli Bryan showing UP Business car.

May16/17 — Boy Scouts from Sacramento stayed overnight in Troop Sleeper.

May17 — Old car club from Sacramento visited.

May23/ 24/ 25 — Season Opening. Working on shower car was Tom Graham, Art Young, and Judy McGrath. Office car computer was repaired by computer expert Peter “Doc” Lyman. Bill Shippen assisted by asking questions and learning how not to reload Windows 95.

May26-29 — Steve Orman prepared and painted the cab of VIA 6776.

Jun01 — Ken Iverson worked on the Krane Kar and the UP caboose.

Jun02 — Back Hoe arrives.

Jun04 — School group ride, Norm Holmes, Ken Iverson, and Lolli Bryan helped. Ken Roller did a tour.

Jun09 — Norm Holmes painted cab floor of VIA 6776.

Jun12/13 — MAP-1 survey. Working lunch with City Manager, District Superintendent, Chamber of Commerce director, Plumas Corp representative, Board Members etc.

Jun13 — Board of Directors and General Membership meeting.

Jun22 — Norm Holmes attended Portola business community meeting.

Jun27 — Bob Lindley and Dave Anderson placed new windows in Santa Fe caboose.