

Mechanical Department

By Hank Stiles

You should have been in Portola the week of June 18-25 as I was. So much was happening. We have employed two painters, three helpers, a laborer and a welder.

The Union Pacific baggage car has had repair work done on the car body and doors. It is being sanded in preparation to receive a coat of primer. The undercarriage has been pressure washed and when all is ready the car will receive a coat of new paint, top to bottom.

Doug Morgan, Nick Tynan and I, with the help of Doug's 50-ton air jacks, removed the rear truck from caboose WP 428. The welder has built up the worn areas on the pins and hangers along with installing some new wear plates. A repair to one of the side frames and new brake beams and it will be ready to re-assemble. Then the rear truck will be placed back under the caboose and the front truck will then receive the same treatment. The car body has been repaired, sanded and primer applied. A new coat of the correct color of paint will be applied, all the lettering will be applied and the windows re-installed. Along with some clean up and upholstery work on the inside and we will have a caboose that we can be proud of for years to come.

Work is being done to the WP 707, one of our GP-7's. It is being sanded, primed and will also receive a fresh coat of orange and silver paint. The cab interior will be painted and seats will be repaired as needed. One cracked window glass will be replaced and one of the number board glasses that someone broke with a rock will be replaced.

As you can see things are getting done and there is more to come.

Locomotive maintenance is going on. The WP 608 has some fuel oil getting into the lube oil, not much but enough that I have purchased a black light, which is what you use to spot fuel oil leaks. Crankcase oil for all operating locomotives has had samples taken and I have received the reports back from the lab. Other than the fuel oil in the WP 607 and some bearing wear in the WP 921-D, the reports all look good.

There is lots of work to do so please consider coming up for a visit. We will all have a good time and our collection will be the better for our efforts.

Help Wanted

By Kerry Cochran

Would you like to become a member of the Portola Railroad Museum Train Crew?

Requirements are; 18 years of age, active membership (\$30.00) or above, leather gloves and leather footwear that protects the ankles

If you are interested ask any crew member for information, see one of the train crew supervisors who are Don Nelson, Pat Brimmer and Paul Finnegan or contact me directly either at the museum or by phone at (650) 952-7127.

Operating Department

By Kerry Cochran

On May 5th & 6th, the Operating Department held it's annual crew training. This year had the largest turn out of members and new members joining the operating department.

First, I would like to welcome the new members, Bill Chappell, Robert Forren, Chris Jozwiak, Loren Ross, Stephanie Sprague, Steve Stephens, Ed Powell, Dwight Wolfinger, Dan Zukowski, Jack Zygnier, and any other new member that I missed.

Returning members, Ken Roller, Dick Citrino, Tom Andrews, Lew Barnard, Dave Bergman, Don Borden, Pat Brimmer, Bob Carr, Eddie Chase, Terry Decottignies, Paul Finnegan, Kenneth Finnegan, John Hittner, Dave Kantoff, Don Nelson, Jack Palmer, Tom Parr, Matt Parr, Eugene Vicknair, John Walker Steve Habeck, Norm Holmes, and some that I may have missed.

Board members that were on hand to help with the weekend in general, as well as with the operation of the museum, Frank Brehm, Doug Morgan, and Hank Stiles

Thirty six members in total attended the training for the weekend. The Rules Examination was give on Saturday and Sunday, with hands on training given on Saturday and Saturday evening. One of the highlights of this years training, was a presentation on Fire Extinguisher, by Don Borden and Frank Brehm.

One thing that you missed if you were not present, was the dinner that the museum provided for the crew this year. The Operating Department wishes to thank the cooks for the night, Frank Brehm, Hank Stiles, and their helper Doug Morgan, without these people, dinner would not have been possible. THANKS

If you missed the Crew Training Weekend, don't worry, you can take the rules examination at any time during the year, just see one of the Supervisor, or myself.

Speaking of Supervisors, I have asked for several members of the operating department to step up and help us out in this year's operation. I am happy to report that the following members have been selected to take supervisory positions within the operating department;

Don Nelson Assistant Trainmaster and Supervisor
Pat Brimmer Supervisor
Paul Finnegan Supervisor, and Crew Caller
Norm Holmes Supervisor
Hank Stiles Supervisor

These members, will be in charge of the operating department on weekends and special operating days when I can not be present at the museum. Each holds a very important position in keeping the museum caboose train in operation during the season. All operating personnel should give their cooperation to each of the supervisors.

On behalf of the FRRS, the Portola Railroad Museum and myself, I would like to thank all the members for their help in making the operating department come alive this year, and to getting us off to a good operating season.

Operating Department Promotions May 2001
Paul Finnegan Qualified Yard Engineer Qualified RAL Engineer
John Hittner Qualified Fireman Student Yard Engineer