

Operating Department

Don Nelson Qualified RAL Engineer

New and Returning Positions May 2001

Student Brakeman Bill Chappell, Dick Citrino, Robert Forren, Chris Jozwiak, Dave Kantoff, Matt Parr, Tom Parr, Ed Powell, Loren Ross, Stephanie Sprague, Steve Stephens, Eugene Vicknair, John Walker, Dwight Folfinger, Jack Zygnier, Dan Zukowski.

At some point in time I am sure that I have missed some members qualifications or student positions, with the transition from Jim Gidley SR. to myself, I may need some assistance from some of the members, to bring to my attention any loss of qualifications in position. Please notify me if there are any questions in your service records within the operating department.

Zephyr Project Update

By Eugene John Vicknair

Much work was accomplished on the dome area over the past month. Special thanks goes to Don Borden who worked over several weekends pulling plywood and trim pieces from the dome. He was assisted at various times by Eric Stephens, Steve Stephens, Ed Powell, John Reese, and Paul Finnegan's son (I'm sorry, I don't remember his first name). Tom Graham also helped in evaluating the securing of the plywood in the dome flooring. I helped some, too.

Doug Morgan returned from a trip to the Colorado Railroad Museum with several finds that will be vital to restoring the car. A long list of Budd diagrams covering wiring, components, interior trim and upholstery and other items were found in the CRM archives. We are working with CRM to obtain copies of these and create working drawings from them.

On the window front, I have yet to receive any takers on the Buy-A-Window program, but have been in regular communication with R. E. Jackson, the window maker. They have sent photos of their modernized dome frames placed in a Budd car. These modernized frames are sturdier and more leak resistant than the original frames or the early Amtrak copies. However, they are almost indistinguishable when installed. They look really good. I have also been trying to find a less expensive source of glass with no luck.

Several car parts suppliers have been contacted seeking components for the Hostel, including the all important teardrop dome frames. Thanks to Norm Holmes for connecting me with a good supplier in Canada who is willing to help us. Also, thanks to John Suschek of Ozark Mountain Railcar for information on possible sources of glass.

The dome ventilation grilles should be sandblasted and primed by the middle of July. The final dome trim items should also be removed during a work weekend over July 14-15. All trim pieces will be stripped, repaired and primed in the coming weeks if we can find the hands to do the work. (hint-hint!) I am evaluating two metal shops for replicating the missing trim pieces as my sources say it is unlikely we can find good original parts.

Doug Morgan has been evaluating ways to handle the

Zephyr Project Update

HVAC systems and, when the wiring diagrams arrive, we should be able to tackle the planning of that problem in earnest with our chief electrician Steve Stephens.

It looks like we have definitely found a welder skilled in stainless steel work who is willing to join the team. The question now is coordinating his schedule to get him up to the museum.

In the last 2 months, about \$700 in new donations have been received. Donors include Malcolm E. Church, John Wieland and Robert W. Blanch. Thank you!

At the June Board Meeting, the Directors approved approaching locomotive rebuilding shops for donations of labor to complete the mechanical restoration of the 805A. CMO Hank Stiles and I are going to work on getting their help in getting the 805A back to 100%.

Finally, thanks to Ted Hendricks of Makita Tools, the FRRS, via the Zephyr Project, is now the recipient of several brand-new cordless tools that should prove invaluable on the Hostel and other projects. These tools are being made available to the FRRS for free for six months. At that time, they can be sold to members or purchased by the Society at a steep discount. For more details, see the Makita Tools article elsewhere in this issue.

HELP, Lost Members!

The Following list of Members have had their mail returned to the FRRS, because, they moved and did not leave a forwarding address, the forwarding address at the post office has expired, or the address that we have is wrong.

If you know any of these members, please have them contact us or send their current mailing address to the membership services at the museum.

Ralph Hill, Sr., of Hemet, Ca
 Nicholas J. Tynan, of Livermore, Ca
 Chris Kennedy, of Quincy, Ca
 Robert York, of San Jose, Ca
 Brent MacGregor, of San Luis Obispo, Ca
 Bill Sturm, of Sun City, Az.
 William L. Burke, of Mountain Home, AR.

15th FRRS Railfan Photographers Day

By Vic Neves

Join with us September 15th 2001 as we return this most popular event to the Portola Railroad Museum from 9:00 AM to 10:00 PM.

Events include;
 Scheduled trains,
 Swap meet,
 Slide shows,
 Night flash photo session.

This is a special event requiring extra fare, FRRS members pay only \$5.00 and non-members \$10.00.