

Run-A-Locomotive

By Norman Holmes

Our Run-A-Locomotive program is going well this year despite early on high gasoline prices. Total number of rentals has remained about the same as last year. Helping with the program as engineer instructors are Ken Iverson, Norm Holmes, Jack Palmer, Pat Brimmer, Don Nelson, Bob Larson and our newest qualified instructor Jack Zygnier.

We query each renter as to how they first found out about our program. Increasingly the answer is "from the Internet." We are grateful to Keith and Susan Morrison who operate Sleepy Pines Motel for taking reservations and answering questions about the program on our 832-4532 RAL phone line.

Three interesting rentals were run recently: Ken Iverson had a group of 12 blind children who each had a turn operating one of our locomotives, Norm Holmes and Jack Zygnier operated two locomotives for six hours for a family reunion outing (\$1,200) and on August 6, the Make-A-Wish Foundation brought 7 year old Brady Fall from Reno to fulfill his dream of operating a locomotive. Previously Brady was taken on Amtrak to Sacramento to visit the Sacramento Railroad Museum. At Portola he was met by FRRS President Jim Murphy who welcomed him to Portola, then Norm Holmes took him on WP 608 for several runs around the balloon track with Brady operating the locomotive and blowing the horn. Reno TV Channel 4 recorded the event and our participation was shown on the 6 o'clock news. Brady's closing words spoken from the engineers window of 608 was, "I'm having fun up here."

The Make-A-Wish Foundation takes young people who may not have long to live and if reasonable gives them their wish. We donated our services for this great young man.



Brady also enjoyed telling Reno channel 4 viewers about his experience.
- photo by Norm Holmes

Operating Department

By Pat Brimmer

The Operations Department wishes to thank Linda Brimmer for providing us with new flags. We now have 3 brand new flags in each of the colors (white, green, red and blue).

WPRRHS News

By Thom Anderson

Tom Lawler, organizer of the WPRRHS 2002 convention, reports significant progress. The convention site is the Yuba City Best Western Bonanza Inn, and the convention date is April 12-13, 2002. The theme of the convention is Sacramento Northern. More details will be forthcoming as they are available. Tom is looking for anyone interested in presenting clinics or slide shows. Please contact Tom at twlawler@infostations.com or through the Society mailing address; P.O. Box 608, Portola CA 96122 if you want to help.

A special rate of \$58.00 + tax double occupancy and an additional \$4.00 for each additional person has been obtained for convention attendees who wish to stay at the Best Western. Attendees should make their own room reservations by calling the Best Western Bonanza Inn at 530-674-8824.

Morning Sun Books' *Western Pacific Color Guide to Freight and Passenger Equipment* by Jim Eager is due for release in October. Several Society members have helped Jim to produce a much-needed resource for WP modelers. It'll be one that you'll have to add to your library.

Issue #18 of *The Headlight* is in production and is expected to be ready to go to press by the end of October. This issue will contain the second half of the California Zephyr material. Subsequent issues will include articles on WP's U23-B fleet and how to model them, the final four F-units, SW-1500 switchers, SN aluminum covered hoppers, WP dining car china and more. If you have information, photos, or articles to contribute to the magazine, please contact Editor Dave Pires at dpires@pacbell.net or 707-747-6772.

Archives Curator John Walker has made additional progress organizing the Archives Car. Additional work organizing and cataloging the materials still needs to be done. If you are interested in helping out on this project, please contact John at run8john@clear-cxn.net or call him at 530-671-9584.

2001 Election Report

By Tom Graham

The following people spent 134 1/2 hours on the on the election process: Beverly De Censo, Tom Graham, Gary Hall, Ken Iverson, Missy Iverson, Judy McGrath, Jim Murphy, Jeff Palmer, Jerry Prickett, Jill Prickett, John Risse, Leslie Tigan.

The ballots were counted under the direction and supervision of the Portola City Clerk who has certified the election.

1055 ballots were mailed. Of the those returned 499 were authenticated and counted and the following members have been elected: Norman Holmes, Jan Breitwieser, Kerry Cochran.

The above article on the election results was omitted from the last issue due to space constraints. I apologize to those who served on the committee and contributed so much time to the election process.

Frank Brehm - Editor.