



# The Train Sheet

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News from the Feather River Rail Society and the Portola Railroad Museum

## Code Corrections, Grounds Clean-Up Continue

By Eugene John Vicknair, Acting Facility Manager

A lot of work has been occurring around the facility, mainly focused on completing the city code corrections and other projects aimed at cleaning the grounds and providing better parking places.

**FRRS OFFICE CAR:** Except for some minor items, the electrical work on the Office Car was completed during the weekend of July 13-14. The next step will be completing work to create a secure files storage area. Fire detection and suppression equipment will be installed in the new file room and the McClure family has donated several filing cabinets. Eventually it is planned to create individual workspaces in the main part of the car, as suggested by several members, and to perform finish work on the west end of the car to create more usable space.

**DIESEL SHOP:** The electricians we have had working on the facility, life members, Eric and Steve Stephens, have found numerous deficiencies in the diesel shop's wiring. Eric and Steve are correcting most of these as found with the assistance of several other members. The biggest project recently concerned the elimination of hard-wired extension cords into the women's restroom and their replacement with a correct conduit line and wall plugs. The next big push in the Diesel Shop will be a complete cleaning and reorganizing of the Tool Room, Electrical Room and the workspaces. New forms of tool storage are being explored, along with ideas in tool security.

**VOLUNTEER AREA RAMP:** This item is proceeding with a great deal of work being donated by Eric and Aaron McClure, Charlie Walls, Paul Disney, Sara Eidman, Bobby Rigler, "Cowboy" Jesse, Eric Stephens and Wendy Holtz. Lumber has been donated by Sierra Pacific thanks to Andy



Entrance to the museum grounds has visually been enhanced with the clean-up efforts of the volunteers. - Frank Brehm

Anderson and by Eugene Vicknair. Thanks also to Norm Holmes, who hauled the lumber from Quincy, and Rod McClure who assisted in its storage at the museum. When completed, this will be an ADA compliant ramp with stairs and concrete walkways leading to it. The Volunteer Area Deck will also be reworked to eliminate some hazards that exist for small children.

**SHOWER CAR PLUMBING:** The new sewer hook-up is being researched by the city and will proceed once we have the go-ahead from them. Meanwhile, a big push occurred over the weekend of July 13-14 for replacing the non-compliant drain and breather lines coming from the Shower Car and the occupied out-fit car. With this work completed, we will only need to tie in a new sewer line to be in compliance with the city's directives.

**OTHER PROJECTS:** Several other items have been worked on and repaired around the facility, including the painting of the Beanery floor, repairs to the men's room, a new water heater on the shop sink and general items of clean-up. Special thanks to Marta Egan, George and Jan Breitweiser and everyone else who pitched in. Soon, the telephone outside the west end of

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## Code Corrections, Grounds Clean-Up

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the diesel shop should sport a blue light and emergency signs.

Also, the new equipment informational signs are showing up around the museum. The Silver Hostel and UP 105 became the first items of rolling stock to have signs. Thanks to Mary Ann Vicknair, Wendy Holtz, Eric Stephens and Frank Brehm for their help on this project.

Finally, our Roadmaster, Rod McClure, has been orchestrating a massive clean-up effort of the museum grounds. The Wheel Garden and associated parts field have seen a big change with useless and damaged items being disposed of and the area reorganized. The assorted parts along the rip tracks at the east end of the museum have also been cleaned up and removed and that area will soon sport new surface material to make a parking area for volunteers. The main parking lot's accessible spaces have also received some new surface material and leveling and will see more work in the coming weeks.

While it has been a lot of hard work, it is paying off. Both members and visitors are commenting that the museum grounds are looking better than they ever have. As we ramp up into the first phases of the facilities improvement plan and the building of new display tracks, a solid foundation for a clean and functional museum is steadily being laid.

Thank you to everyone who has helped out!

## PRM Gift Registry

By Eugene Vicknair

Upon looking around the museum recently, I realized that our locomotives, cars and even the facility itself and the railroads of the Western Pacific family have seen many birthdays, anniversaries and other special events come and go. However, something was always missing.... PRESENTS!

If you would like to give a gift, please find something on the registry in your price range and purchase it for the FRRS. Then, you are invited to bring it to the museum and present it yourself or, if you are unable, we can help arrange shipping. And, if you can't decide what would be a good present, gift certificates of any amount are always welcome. Just send the gift certificate to the museum, care of Eugene Vicknair, Facility Manager.

The gifts listed in the current registry are:

*1 – Table Saw capable of handling stock up to 4" thick*

*1 – Floor standing or work bench mounted Drill Press*

*1 – Radial Arm saw with a minimum 14" throw*

*1 – Router/Shaper Table with Router*

*2 – Vertical Belt Sanders*

*3 – 3 or 4 drawer Filing Cabinets*

*"Gorilla" Racking (this is the type of shelving system used in warehouse stores such as Home Depot and Costco)*

*2 sets of Sockets with Socket Drivers, 1/2" and 3/4" drive*

*2 sets of Adjustable "Crescent" Wrenches*

Of course, since the FRRS is a non-profit organization, any gifts given are tax-deductible. Just send or bring a copy of the receipt and a thank you letter will be provided. All those who bring gifts will be recognized in the Train Sheet.

If you have any questions about the gift registry, or have a special gift you are thinking of giving, please contact the FRRS Facility Manager, Eugene Vicknair via e-mail at [tsry@aol.com](mailto:tsry@aol.com) or drop a letter to the museum.

## Board Meeting Minutes

**May 4, 2002 6 p.m.**

President Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. The following directors were present: Andy Anderson, Frank Brehm, Jan Breitwieser, Pat Brimmer, Kerry Cochran, Steve Habeck, Norm Holmes, Hank Stiles, Eugene Vicknair.

Visitors present: Dan Brady, Marta Egan, Rod McClure, Gail McClure, Judy McGrath, Jack Palmer, Alan Turner, John Walker.

### CORRESPONDENCE:

Director Vicknair informed the Board he had spoken to several members who called regarding the Zephyr Project and had very complimentary things to say about the museum in general, and specifically regarding the progress with restorations. One member indicated his excitement at seeing the Society represented again this year at Truckee.

### CONSENT AGENDA:

Minutes – Approval of the minutes of the regular meeting held April 6, 2002.

Financial Reports – Profit & Loss report for the period Jan.-Apr. 2002.

Agenda Policy – Approval of proposed Agenda Policy distributed at April BOD meeting.

A & D Committee Report – Acceptance of committee findings on Sulzer locomotives.

Section 8 Housing Issues – Acceptance of report of finding authorized at April meeting.

Director Cochran advised he had several questions from the last meeting as Directors who were absent did not have some of the reports to review. He mentioned the updated code correction list and findings of the Member Misconduct Committee were of specific concern as it would be difficult to approve the minutes without that background. Alan Turner stated that Board members who did not attend the meeting do not vote to approve the minutes from that meeting. Only those present at the meeting know if the minutes are accurate or need to be corrected or amended. Director Vicknair said he would provide copies of the reports in question to Directors who were not present at the April meeting.

Director Cochran indicated that he had an additional question regarding a recommendation of the A&D Committee regarding deacquisition of SP 1215. He questioned if the restricted donations received for restoration of that locomotive had been considered. Rod McClure, Chairman of the A&D Committee, advised this issue was considered and the Board would have to decide if and when the time comes to act on deacquisition if donors would be offered their money back or what the disposition of those monies would be.

Director Cochran stated that per the minutes there was talk of the annual membership meeting committee. He requested they think about the Glad Hand Award in their plans. President Anderson said he was asked who selects the recipient of that award. Director Cochran stated previous recipients make that selection.

President Anderson advised the Board that Marta Egan, President's Representative, spoke with representatives of the housing authority regarding Section 8 concerns expressed at previous meetings. Ms. Egan reported she had spoken with Sandra Grimes, Ken Roller's case officer. She said there is nothing in their rules and regulations requiring Mr. Roller pay his share of the stated rent and that volunteering