

Archives Cataloging Continues

By John Walker

It has been some time since I've reported on our work on the museum's archives. Unfortunately, a death in my family prevented me from getting much work done last summer. You always think you'll be ready for such an eventuality-but you never really are. It does serve to remind all of us how important it is to make arrangements for the disposition of certain items in our collections. If you would like to donate something to the museum in the future, please contact me and I will get some forms mailed off to you. It is also important to discuss this with your family and make sure they understand your desires. All too often we have seen a great collection spread to the winds or worse, carelessly sent to the dump.

Well, a new season is well underway and work has begun again on the archives. I'm proud to announce that our collection survived the winter with no damage and new donations continue to come in. Special thanks go to Mr. Bob Rathbun of Paradise for his donation of almost 2,000 original color slides taken in the early 1970's around Oroville and the lower canyon.

Sorting continues on lots of items. The donation by Simplot of a 60 foot reefer car last year will help considerably as we plan to use this car for mechanical related items (operating and repair manuals, drawings, etc) and bulk storage of surplus and hardware items which are not currently out on display. But in order to use this car effectively, we need some 96 feet of shelving. If you know of a company with some surplus metal shelving or know where we can find a great deal, please contact me. In the meantime, we are soliciting donations. The popular "Gorilla" brand of adjustable shelving (found at Sam's Club and other warehouse stores) cost \$50.00 to \$60.00 for a three-foot section. We need eight to ten units just to fill one corner of the car. If you would like to purchase a section or go halves with someone else, please contact me or send a check to the museum marked "Archives Shelving" and we will put the money specifically to this effort. This would be a great investment in the museum and we certainly could use the help.

We have a great collection of magazines and do not need any more Model Railroaders, Model Railroad Craftsman, Trains, Pacific Rail News, Railfan and Railroad or Mainline Modeler magazines at this time (unless you have the really early issues). If you're looking to clear out part of your collection we could use CTC Board and X2200 South magazines. We are also building up quite a video collection. If you need to thin out your collection, we are also accepting these. A nice color TV and four VCR's were recently donated to the museum and we are working on setting these up for viewing.

I know I've promised this in the past, but I really do plan to post a list of what we have and what we need soon. Please bear with me while we continue to sort through things and get them organized. I'm usually at the museum every other weekend through the summer so feel free to come up and pitch in. Portola is a great place to get away from the summer heat and enjoy trains!

And finally, we get many requests for information on fam-

ily members who once worked for the railroad. Unfortunately, we do not have the railroad's personnel records. All of the information that we have on employees is occasional union grievances, seniority lists or some mention in the railroad's "Milepost" employee magazine. We hope to some day develop a database of all WP/SN/TS employees but it will take a lot of time and work.

New in the Gift Shop

By John Walker

Cedco has produced an all color Western Pacific calendar for 2003. The large format calendar features pictures of WP FT's in their "as delivered" paint scheme and several silver and orange versions. Our very own 805A is featured on the cover and the 921 is shown in the green paint scheme leading the Milpitas Turn over Altamont. Overall it is a very nice calendar with lots of room for notes in the daily blocks.

The gift shop will be stocking the calendar, which is now shipping. Help support the preservation of these locomotives at your museum by ordering your calendar from the gift shop. The retail price is \$12.99 and \$2.00 should handle domestic first class postage.

Win \$2000.00

That's right you be be the big winner in the FRRS raffle. Only 400 tickets to be sold at a price of \$20.00 per ticket and the winner gets \$2,000.00. The drawing will be held on 9/22/02. You need not be present to win.

If you would like to purchase a ticket please mail your check to FRRS, P.O. Box 608, Portola Ca 96122 and indicate Op. Drawing on it. We will return your stub to you.

Golf Tournament Slated

By Marta Egan

Are you a golfer? Not a golfer but enjoy watching the game? If so please come join us for a fun filled day of golf at the historic Feather River Inn on September 22, 2002.

Tee time is 11:00 am with cocktails being served at 5:00 p.m. followed by dinner at 6:00 p.m.

The tournament will be an 18 Hole 4 person scramble. Entry fee is \$35 per person and if you would like to include dinner the cost is \$60. Dinner for a golfer's non-playing guest is \$32. Walking Cart and Power Carts are not included in the above prices.

For those non-golfers among us who would still like to attend the dinner and support the Society the cost is \$35.00. There will also be a Silent Auction.

Please call Museum, 530-832-4131 for an entry form for golf or a reservation for dinner only.

Deadline for both is September 13, 2002

Please come and support your Museum in keeping the Western Pacific alive!