

Calling all Members, Calling all Crews

By Kerry Cochran

2003 is here and Crew Training weekend is just around the corner. I would like to invite members of the Feather River Rail Society to join me and the members of the Operating Department on Saturday May 3 and Sunday May 4, 2003 for our Annual Crew Training.

The Operating Department needs your help for this years 2003 Operating Season. Crew Training will be held on one weekend this year. Saturday and Sunday starting at 10 AM each day, lasting until approximately 4 PM.

You only need to attend one of the two days. You are **not** required to attend both days. Our goal is to provide training on Saturday and Sunday during the day, with the rules test and classroom training.

Our format this year will change with more On-The-Job-Training, (Hands on during the operating season). We will need to cover more material during the classroom session than in previous years in order to cover needed improvements to meet new requirements.

Should you not be able to attend the training in May, we do provide rules test and training through the year. It is not mandatory that you attend this training weekend. The only thing that we require is that you do take the rules test in order to work on the train crew.

Should you have any questions on the Operating Department or the crew training please contact me.

Email KC6KNT@Compuserve.com, Home telephone (650) 952-7127, Fax (650) 588-5490 or you can write me at 649 5th Ave. San Bruno, Ca. 94066-4517.

CMO Report

By Hank Stiles

Once again the days are getting longer in Portola, although it's still cold at night and can be during the day at a moment's notice. Spring is just around the corner; ok it's away around the corner. (I've seen snow on fourth of July weekend more than once in my twenty years of volunteer work at the museum) The point is that it's time to think about preparing for the summer season.

On February 21 & 22 we had our first work weekend this year at the museum site. This event was well attended by many members like you and I. Although cleaning and improvement of the museum site was the focus of the weekend, part of the weekends energy was spent waking up our equipment from its winter rest.

We have kept the WP 512 ready for service this winter, thanks to its Cooper-Bessemer 539-design engine that will tolerate anti-freeze. That saves a lot of fuss draining the cooling system to prevent freeze damage and the mess that involves. We still have all of the inspections, lubrication and routine maintenance that every locomotive requires and Alco's require more than most, its nature of the beast I guess. This example of Schenectady's handy work is one of our most popular locomotives in the Run-

A-Locomotive Program (RAL) and has provided us with years of dependable service.

The mechanical team also started work on our SP GP-9 the SP 2873; again a well used dependable locomotive. It was rebuilt and up-graded by the Southern Pacific years ago, and has many years left in Portola. Much of the same work that the WP512 received was also done to this locomotive.

Spring is also the start of our Locomotive Maintenance Clinics beginning on April 5 & 6. This is your chance to not only help your museum, but to fulfill that dream of finding out just what makes those marvelous things called locomotives tick. Please think about coming up to the museum. Your help would be a boost to the museum and the preservation of the history of the Western Pacific Railroad. Be part of the "Willing People" spirit of that tough little railroad that showed the big boys a thing or two.

See you in Portola.

2002-2003 Direct Mail Fundraiser

By Gail McClure

On behalf of the Board of Directors, we would like to recognize the following individuals and organizations for their support of the Feather River Rail Society evidenced by their generous contributions to our fundraising campaign from October 23, 2002 through February 16, 2003.

\$0-100

Tom Arms, C.F. Bach, Jefferey W. Baus, Jessie Becker, Robert Bell, Carl R. Bogardus, Jr., M.D., J. Allan Brown, Roy Cameron, Jack & Harriet Cogan, Steve Colley, Dan Dalke, Ronald Fernandez, Mark Freiberg, Erik Frodsham, Dennis C. Gilkey, Frank & Linda Girard, Pete Goodier, John Grasso, Philip Gruskin, W.E. Hall, Robert Hanft, Tom & Sue Harmon, Brian Hilaire, William & Barbara Holmes, Nick Perusina & Lisa Johnson, Ronald W. Kaiser, W.M. Kapitanoff, Patrick Kenady, Michel J. Knight, John & Paula Lenz, Gary Lower, Lester Madden, Ralph Mathes, Tom Mueller, Larry M. Over, Dan Parnell, Donald & Linda Peterson, Glenn Peterson, Ken Ritz, John Rodgers, Mark Rubin, Mrs. F.W. Sellman, Mr. & Mrs. John L. Stein, Noel D. Thomas, Richard & Lorraine Thomas, David Thompson, Bob Weekley, Bill Wells, Ron Whaley, P.L. & Rosamond Wyche, Anonymous Donor.

\$101-250

Barry & Joann Daniels, Christopher Jozwiak.

\$251-500

Vic & Arichan Chudoba – IPIC Model Trains Group, Josiah Jenkins, Neil Lyons.

\$501 and up

None

This on-going fundraising project will continue through 2003, so it is not too late to support the FRRS and the Portola Railroad Museum.

Your donation will help support operations, restoration and other projects, and reflect support for our efforts to granting agencies and foundations through which additional funding may be obtained.

Climb aboard!