

FRRS ARCHIVES NEWS

The FRRS archives, under the care of the Western Pacific RR Historical Society, have been growing rapidly. Now, we are pleased to announce that we have obtained secure, environmentally controlled storage for these important documents in downtown Reno. Much of the collection has been stored off-site in recent years. Now, we will have the archives consolidated in two locations: the archives car at the museum and the new, secure site in Reno. The Reno storage is being used for our more fragile documents, photographs and films. Movement and cataloging of the collection has begun and procedures for allowing access to the collection are being created to ensure both their protection and their usability by researchers. The long-term plan is to build a climate-controlled archive and research library as part of the restoration of the Western Pacific Hospital in Portola.

Special thanks to Rod and Gail McClure, Thom Anderson, John Walker and everyone else who has been assisting in caring for this collection and overseeing its storage, movement and cataloging. The next issue of the Train Sheet will feature a sampling of items from the rapidly expanding FRRS archives.

If you have documents, photos, films or other artifacts that are relevant to the Western Pacific, Sacramento Northern, Tidewater Southern and other WP related roads, please consider the FRRS as a home for these important parts of WP history. We can assist you in receiving in creating a donation agreement and finding resources to give a fair evaluation for tax purposes. In addition, we are always looking for assistance in caring for and cataloging the collection. If you would like more information, please contact Thom Anderson, WPRRHS Administrator or Rod McClure, FRRS President, either via e-mail at the addresses listed on page 2, or by calling the museum at 530.832.4131.



NEW MUSEUM LOGO

To go along with the renaming of the museum earlier this year, the FRRS adopted a new museum logo in December. This logo, with its prominent use of an orange feather and WP traditional lettering, emphasizes the heritage of the railroad.

2006 IN REVIEW

Sacramento made a bus trip to the museum. Special events were held including a spin-up of the SP rotary snowplow. The attendees were impressed with the museum and we received much positive notice in the next ARM newsletter.

Our archives, under the care of the WPRRHS, have grown considerably in recent years. They now require climate-controlled storage for some of the sensitive materials being donated. In the fall, the search began for a suitable facility in Reno, reaching a successful conclusion in early 2007. (See article in this issue for more details).

We also received a special donation in late 2006: Southern Pacific Fire Truck 1. Used at the Roseville Shops, this rare item will be used in events like the Portola Railroad Days Parade and local gatherings like Hot August Nights in Reno to promote the Society and the Museum.

A special retirement event was held for long-time member and former president Andy Anderson. Our road crew took WP 707 to Quincy with a short train and gave

"The Chief" a first class ride from the junction into town for his celebration. It was a truly special day that brought a huge smile to Andy's face.

Sadly, we also said farewell to a good friend of the museum as George Brietweiser, husband of former Board member, Jan Brietweiser, passed away. George spent many hours working on projects and helping others at the museum. He is missed.

As 2006 disappeared under the Sierra snows, more changes were on the horizon. To complement the new museum name, a new logo was adopted in December and is now entering wide use. Remediation work is scheduled on the 165 and a restoration proposal is in place for WP GP7 705. We enter 2007 with three California Zephyr cars to keep the 805-A company, and the possibility of more on the way. The FRRS will have a heavy presence at the Railroad Passenger Car Alliance Convention in San Jose in February. The 2007 WPRRHS Convention will be in Tracy this year, while Dunsuir and Portola Railroad Days are looking to be better than ever.

Can't wait to see what 2007 brings....