

DIRECTOR STILES RESIGNS

Hank Stiles resigned his seat on the Board of Directors in November due to personal reasons.

Hank, a former Western Pacific employee, has been an active member of the FRRS since the first summer of museum operations in 1984. At that time, he was a Portola area resident. He left the area and relocated to Sacramento, which he considered his "home terminal" on the railroad, in 1993. During his 23 years of service to our organization, he has been involved in virtually every aspect of museum operations, from helping to train our first operating crews to building track, to serving 12 years as our Chief Mechanical Officer (CMO). He has also served 19 years as a member of the Board of Directors, making him the longest continually-serving Director for the FRRS.

Hank began his career with Western Pacific on November 3, 1971 as an employee of Bridge and Building Gang #502 out of Blairsden, California. He changed courses on September 20, 1972, transferring to the operating crafts in Train Service. During his career he worked at every

terminal on the WP except for the San Jose Yard.

Hank sees his biggest accomplishment as CMO as getting our locomotives in good enough repair that we could depend on them to perform the job we need them to do. "We no longer do rentals if we can get a locomotive to run, we do them when our customer makes their appointment," he says.

As a Director, Hank is pleased with the advancements made during his tenure in the way the museum is managed. "From my beginning with the board I advocated that the board should make the decisions on how the museum is managed and the president should carry out the Board's decisions," he says. Although he still sees room for us to move in this direction, he adds, "I think this is the way we are headed and as far as I am concerned we cannot move fast enough!"

Although it is disappointing to see Hank step down from his position as Director, we are pleased that he has pledged to continue helping our organization and museum as much as other responsibilities will allow.



Dave Roth and Don Chakerian check out the journals on the trucks on the "Silver Plate". They all look good!

- photo by Dave Roth



The car's interior (left, with temporary folding chairs) show wear and tear, but is fairly complete. The kitchen (above) is like a step back into time.

- photos by Eugene John Vicknair