

run behind the 844 to Portola. The 1983 was taken off at Portola where it remained for several days. The UP train remained in Portola two full days drawing large crowds.

FRRS charter member Chris Skow contacted private car owner Bert Hermeij to see if his CZ cars could be available for a trip on that weekend. Although it was on short notice, a three car mini California Zephyr cars pulled by an Amtrak locomotive was approved by Amtrak and Union Pacific. Three cars, Silver Rapids, Silver Lariat and Silver Solarium with an Amtrak GE locomotive left Oakland on Thursday October 30, at 8AM. It travelled south to Niles Junction where the train entered onto original WP trackage for the journey to Portola. Even with the short notice, this 100th Anniversary excursion sold out with 48 passengers, which gave everyone a guaranteed dome seat at all times. Arrival in Portola was 6PM. The train was pulled into the museum by WP 608, turned on the balloon track and parked alongside the diesel shop for the next two nights.

On Friday, October 31 these three CZ cars and

the museum's CZ collection were all coupled together, pulled by the ABA set of F units for a run around the balloon track for the cameras. Indeed, for a short period of time almost a full CZ train set with the F units were together again at the Western Pacific Railroad Museum. Saturday November 1, the train departed Portola at 8:30AM for its return to the Bay Area.

FRRS founder Norman Holmes did not want to let the day go by without a recognition of the event at Keddie. Norm and wife Barbara drove to Keddie Wye where Norm ceremoniously drove an old small sized iron spike with a very old spike mall from the Quincy Railroad. The mini-Zephyr stopped on the wye to commemorate the date. Meanwhile back in Portola, not to let the day go unnoticed a group of FRRS members held a last spike driving ceremony at Malfunction Junction on the museum grounds.

Despite setbacks and the economy, the FRRS can be proud of the efforts so far to celebrate the WP Centennial. As we head into the end of this year, we will close out with more celebration and plans for the next 100 years.

MUSEUMS LICENSE PLATE

The FRRS is supporting an exciting opportunity to bring the world's favorite beagle, Snoopy, to license plates in California and support our state's museums at the same time.

Snoopy is a singular beagle and a proud Californian. Those are two good reasons for him to be featured on his own California license plate. But to make it even more worthwhile, the proceeds from the official Snoopy license plate will support California's museums. Each plate will feature a reproduction of an original Snoopy drawing by Charles Schulz, doing a happy dance, probably in anticipation of supertime.

So how do we make it happen? If we can get 7,500 California drivers to join in, we can be the first state in the union to feature Snoopy on an official license plate. Note that you are simply registering interest at this point. Once we have enough interested people, the state will collect a \$50 fee from anyone who wants to get their own Snoopy plate. When we reach the magic number of 7,500, they will go into production, and voilà, a Snoopy license plate is yours.

Registration proceeds from the plate will go into a fund to help our state's great museums, such as the FRRS. As you know, museums are truly special places, community forums where families, friends and neighbors can meet, learn and discover together. We're lucky in California, because our state has an incredible variety of great museums that serve a truly diverse range of interests and specialties.

So, don't hesitate! Go to www.snoopyplate.com today to sign up for your Snoopy license plate. And, tell your friends and family to help us achieve our goal. Help support the FRRS and California museums.

