

## **FRRS wins 2014 UP Foundation Grant** – Wayne Monger, Director, FRRS

The Feather River Rail Society (FRRS), a public benefit 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, which is the owner and operator of the Western Pacific Railroad Museum of Portola, California, has announced they were successful in obtaining a \$3,000 grant from the Union Pacific Foundation. This 2014 grant will be used to support ongoing stabilization and cataloging work by FRRS volunteers of fragile portions of the historical archives of the Western Pacific Railroad stored at the museum site in Portola.

The Union Pacific Foundation is the charitable giving arm of the Union Pacific Corporation. The Feather River Rail Society was one of over 2,300 charitable non-profits that applied for a Union Pacific Foundation grant. In 2013, the UP Foundation gave out around \$7 million to 980 separate non-profits throughout the entire 23 state service area of the Union Pacific Railroad.

The successful FRRS grant writing team consisted of Active member Debbie Baer of Portola, Life member James Mason of Pasadena and charter Life member Wayne Monger of Suisun City. Mr. Monger has also served as an elected member of the FRRS Board of Directors for 25 of the past 30 years that the Feather River Rail Society has existed as a non-profit corporation. The Union Pacific Foundation grant application was completed prior to the mid-August 2013 deadline. During February 2014, the Union Pacific Foundation informed the FRRS that the grant application was successful and the organization would get \$3,000 to support the ongoing volunteer work to stabilize and catalog the vast Western Pacific Railroad archives.

To award the 2014 Union Pacific Foundation grant checks to all of the 33 winning non-profit charities in the greater Sacramento region, Union Pacific Corporation director of Public Affairs, Northern California and Nevada Liisa Stark arranged for a special Union Pacific heritage passenger train to be operated Friday May 16 between the Rocklin and Auburn Capitol Corridor passenger stations. FRRS representatives Debbie Baer of Portola and Wayne Monger of Suisun City were invited to join with dozens of representatives of the 32 other non-profit charities in the Sacramento region for the on-board ceremonies and check presentations.

The Feather River Rail Society owns and operates the Western Pacific Railroad Museum at Portola. The museum is open to the public daily 10AM to 5PM from May 1 until October 1 volunteers permitting. Train rides are available on the museum grounds every weekend from Memorial Day through Labor Day. The world famous “Run-A-Locomotive” program, where a paying guest can operate a diesel locomotive under the guidance of an instructor, is available from mid-April through November 1 weather permitting.



*Feather River Rail Society (Western Pacific Railroad Museum) Director Wayne Monger accepts 2014 Union Pacific Foundation grant check for ongoing Museum Archive preservation activities from Union Pacific Corporation director of Public Affairs for Northern California and Nevada Liisa Stark. May 16, 2014 at Rocklin, California Capitol Corridor depot. Photo by Debbie Baer.*

## **Around the Museum...**



*WP 917-D sits in the WPRM shop overnight during mechanical work and rust abatement on 12 April 2014. 917 is back in service in the RAL program as of 24 June 2014.*

– Matt Elems Photo