

Latest on the WP165*- Roger Stabler*

Since our last *Train Sheet* article, we have had another work session. I arrived on Sunday, July 24th, and proceeded to get settled in.

On Monday, I spent most of the day locating parts in the various storage locations and setting up for the week. Mike Waters arrived Monday afternoon and immediately went to work on the dome studs, extending the thread as necessary. We managed to get the dome on and all bolts torqued. I started working on piping for the steam lines and ordering valves for the fireman's manifold that we do not have. I also got out the water glasses and valves and started work on locating the second water glass. On Tuesday, Bob Sims arrived while Mike and I continued to work on piping. Wednesday I procured the gasket material for the front end. Mike and I, assisted by David Elems, installed the gasket and tightened down the front end. The decision was made to buy all new hardware for the front end so work stopped until Friday when the material arrived.



Fireman's Manifold, body manufactured by Channing Walker. Mike and Roger installed it on the engine with the blower valve and associated piping to the smokebox.

- photo by Bob Sims

On Thursday Mike and I, with the assistance of Charlie Spikes, remove all of the cylinder cocks and lapped the valves. We then went to work on the linkage so that the valves are operational. The rest of the day was spent doing work on piping of cab water glasses and finishing the piping on the air pump and manifold. Bob Sims got the timber set up and drilled the tender sill. Mike and I helped Bob get the timber secured. Friday the hardware for the front end arrived and Mike ran a die nut on all the studs and tightened down the front end. Mike also installed the queen post and the front-end handrail is now on the engine. Dave Elems arrived and test fit the stay bolts that he is making for us. They need a little more machine work to be ready to install. I spent most of Friday plumbing the water glasses and machining fittings for the glasses.

On Saturday, both glasses were installed and the pipe to the "dyno" (dynamo generator) was installed. We spent part of Saturday cleaning up the shop and departed early Sunday Morning. The steam crew enjoyed a nice dinner and visit with Kirk Baer at his home Saturday evening.

I hope to have one more work session the last week of September. Hopefully, with the exception of seal welding, all of the rear sheet boiler work will be completed.



Mike Waters chases nuts on the smoke box cover.

- photo by Bob Sims