

**Historical/Archive Department News**

- Kerry Cochran  
Archive Manager



While not as active this year, we continue to make progress in the FRRS Archives. My work in the archives has taken on second position as we have been short on operating crews and I have been working the caboose train crew this year. With that said, work on the archive has not stopped. Since the museum has been open for the 2023 season, the Historical/Archive Department will be open on a limited basis as staff is available. (Please contact the archive staff to make arrangements to visit.)

Ethan Doty has joined the Archive Department staff and has been working in the Simplot car, moving some of the stored items and making some working space available in the car by cleaning up the car and moving two desks into a position to give him space to work.

The museum has purchased 240 magazine boxes to hold the collection of donated railroad magazines. Ethan has been working on the magazine collection getting them inventoried and placed into the new boxes.

We have moved several parts and pieces of some of the materials in the Simplot car to give us storage space on the metal shelves in the car for the magazine collection as well as using the existing wooden shelves and file cabinets.

Eugene Vicknair was approached by a person that had a locomotive builder's plate from the WP Locomotive # 301. After some checking with other members and discussion with the FRRS Board of Director, the society elected to purchase the builder plate for \$500.00 including shipping. Several members have stepped up and donated \$100.00 each so that the society only had to pay \$100.00 for it. The funding will come out of the Archive Department budget.

Thank you to the following members for their donations:

Matt Shuman	\$100.00
Greg Elems	\$100.00
Eugene Vicknair	\$100.00
Kerry Cochran	\$100.00

This year we have received several exceptional donations:

- Patricia Ellis has donated an original Brass Bell from WP Locomotive #31 along with a photo of locomotive #31 and a Memorial Plaque for her late husband.
- Suzanne Delzell Rogers has donated Zephyrette Jane Conner California Zephyr Scrapbook and Memorabilia. This will go with our other CZ collections.
- Gary Broeder of Quincy has donated an Enameled Metal Western Pacific sign off a WP Flex Van/Trailer. He indicated this was on a restaurant in San Jose, Ca. that had a WP Caboose and Budd car used for the restaurant.
- Tom Hervey has donated 1992 Conductor Seniority Roster and a 1992 Brakeman Seniority Roster to be added to the other seniority rosters that we have in the collection.
- Member Brian Waller, who works at the Herlong Army Depot, came into the museum on Wednesday (9/6/23) after work and he had a great gift for the FRRS. While the depot was cleaning up and moving materials around the shop, they found the original builders plate for the FM 1857. It was given to Brian to give to the FRRS as the depot knew that the 1857 was at the museum. Thanks to all for getting this builder's plate back to the locomotive.



*Brian Waller with the builder's plate for our FRW 1857 (aka USA 1857). See close-up photo on back cover.*

*- Photo by Kerry Cochran*

We have been making more improvements to the H/A web pages and are bringing a new level of access to some of the collections donated to the society by our members, railroad employees and the general public. This is just a start as to what we envision on releasing to our members and public. Please understand this is a "Work in Progress" and several collections have not been inventoried or processed as of yet.

Each month we release new materials to the archives pages. Please be on the lookout for these new items. The new material is announced in the Latest Museum News column on the website.

The updates contain several different aspects of our collection and modeling items and I hope that we can continue to add to the photo albums that we have been working on.

If you have not visited the Historical/Archive Department web page recently, please consider looking at them to see "What's New" in the Western Pacific Documents page.

[https://wplives.org/wphistory\\_wp\\_documents.html](https://wplives.org/wphistory_wp_documents.html)

Members and the general public mostly contact us through our website using the [Info@wplives.org](mailto:Info@wplives.org) or [Historical\\_Archive\\_dept@wplives.org](mailto:Historical_Archive_dept@wplives.org), when asking questions. Emails sent to these are directed to a mailing list so that they can be addressed.

We are always looking for help in getting materials properly stored and we need the support of the membership with helping supply storage materials for the archives.

We still need help in getting funding and storage materials for the archive department. Should you be able to help out, please let us know.

Should any member receive any donation and/or get an inquiry about a donation, please get in touch with one of the archive staff or archive committee to make sure we properly address the donation or inquiry.

Please if you take something in for the archives, make sure you make notes and attached to the items or boxes.)

Thank you to all the members of the FRRS/WPRM who contribute to the society and the archives.