



## Preserving "THE FEATHER RIVER ROUTE"

Issue - 192

January/February/March 2022



- Paul Finnegan  
FRRS Webmaster

From time to time, we hear from our members that they want to volunteer at the museum, but they live too far away. We have a project that you can do away from the museum.

As part of the Meeker Collection, we have some photos that were taken on the film set of several movies that were shot on the WP.

The problem is we have little, or no, context or captions for some of the photos. The volunteer opportunity is to get a copy of the photos, watch the movie (all are available on streaming platforms), maybe do some online research about the cast, crew and location, and then write the captions for the photos. I can then add them to the website and our H/A Department archives.

To see what we have now, enter "WP in the Movies" in the *Search the wplives.org website...* search bar on the WPLives.org home page.

If you are interested in helping with the documentation of the WP's movies, please contact me so we can get you started! Please email me at [webmaster@wplives.org](mailto:webmaster@wplives.org).



**-THE TRAIN SHEET-**

Issue 192 - January/February/March 2022  
 Published March 29, 2022  
 News from the Feather River Rail Society and the  
 Western Pacific Railroad Museum at Portola

Editor - Paul Finnegan  
 Email: trainsheet@wplives.org  
 Contribution Deadlines: Last Day of March, June,  
 September and December.  
 Contents Copyright © 2022  
 Feather River Rail Society  
 All Rights Reserved

**FEATHER RIVER RAIL SOCIETY**  
**WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD**  
**MUSEUM at PORTOLA**

PO BOX 608, Portola, CA 96122-0608

Museum Phone: (530) 832-4131  
 Fax: (530) 832-1854

The museum is currently closed for the winter.  
 Planned reopening is April 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022.  
 If you wish to visit during the closure period, it is  
 advisable to call in advance  
 and find out if the museum will be open.

Entrance to the museum for members is free. Non-  
 members are required to pay an admission fee.

The Feather River Rail Society, a tax-exempt public  
 benefit California corporation, is the historical society for  
 the Western Pacific Railroad and operator of the Western  
 Pacific Railroad Museum in Portola, California.



Funding has been provided by California Humanities and  
 the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) as  
 part of the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021.

**The FRRS is not associated with the  
 Union Pacific Railroad.**

FRRS Tax ID number is 68-0002774  
 Member of the Heritage Rail Alliance

**- BOARD OF DIRECTORS and OFFICERS -**

Greg Elems - President, Director	president@wplives.org
Steve Habeck - VP, Director	vpresident@wplives.org
Eugene Vicknair -Secretary, Director	secretary@wplives.org
Bart Hansen - Treasurer	treasurer@wplives.org
Charlie Spikes - Director	cspikes@wplives.org
Kerry Cochran - Director	kcochran@wplives.org
Roger Stabler - Director	rstabler@wplives.org
Matt Elems - Director	melems@wplives.org
Bob Sims - Director	bsims@wplives.org
Janet Steeper - Director	jsteeper@wplives.org

**Table of Contents – Issue 192**

Western Pacific in the Movies	1
2022 Election Update	3
Convention Events in Reno May 12th ~ May 14th, 2022	4
Reno Convention Events as of 3/21/2022	4
Sunday Convention Events at the Museum	5
Chris Skow's Plans for the 2022 Convention	5
Things Around the Museum: How Did that 53 Foot Container Get to the WPRR Museum?	6
Upcoming Mechanical Work	7
All that's WP isn't Western Pacific	7
What the HECK is a CONTACTOR?	8
WP & WPRM Units Visit Carquinez Model Railroad Society	9
FRRS Website 2021 Update	10
We get emails...	12
Things from the FRRS Board of Directors	12
Join our Operating Department	13
Upcoming Events!	13
Sponsors	14
Membership Report	14
Membership/Mission Statement/Goals/Admissions/Fares	15



**- WEB PAGES of INTEREST -**

FRRS Official Site	www.WPLives.org
CZ Virtual Museum	calzephyr.railfan.net
California Zephyr	californiazephyr.org
Western Pacific Pages	www.WPLives.com
WP Virtual Museum	wpmuseum.railfan.net
Tidewater Southern Pages	www.TidewaterSouthern.com
Central California Traction	www.trainweb.org/tractionco

## 2022 Election Update

Dear FRRS Membership:

The 2022 Election Year is officially closed, and a “White Ballot” has been declared. The voting membership was notified of the “White Ballot” process by US-Mail via a postcard of such to meet the terms of the current Election Policy.



As of midnight on March 15, 2022, this Election Committee did not received any Petitions for “White Ballot” nominations from the membership. The three (3) Board Member incumbents Bob Sims, Roger Stabler & Janet Steeper will remain seated and sworn in later this year for another term.

The “RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED” on the postcards for updating the membership roster turned out to be spotty at best. More errors from USPS than positives. We tried to verify the postcards received back by e-mails and phone calls if that data was available on the Membership Roster. While we had hoped this to be a useful tool for membership verifications and cleanup, it has not turned out to be as positive as we had hoped, mostly because of the USPS Mail Service.

You can do your part in helping us keep the FRRS membership Roster up to date by updating your contact information - Address, E-mail and phone number correct here: [https://www.wplives.org/membership\\_change\\_of\\_address.html](https://www.wplives.org/membership_change_of_address.html)

This Election Committee wants to recognize FRRS Webmasters Paul Finnegan and Kenneth Finnegan for their continued dedication to the FRRS organization and the commitment they have made to the FRRS in the communications area to our membership. They are continually improving notifications to the membership and the world through the FRRS Website, Train Sheet, Headlight and e-mails. They continue to make major strides at being sure that all receive the news of the FRRS & WPRM. Thank you, gentlemen for your continued dedication. We also want to acknowledge the FRRS Board and their continued dedication to our membership and the FRRS and WPRM.

If you have any questions of the Election process or of the Committee members, please address the Elections Committee at [election@wplives.org](mailto:election@wplives.org) .

Stay Healthy and Well and may 2022 be better.

"Your 2022 Election Committee thanks you and is Proud to Serve the FRRS & WPRM."

Sincerely,  
Matthew S. Shuman - FL 1948  
FRRS Nomination & Election Committee - Chair  
[election@wplives.org](mailto:election@wplives.org)

FRRS 2022 Nomination & Election Committee  
1040 Redbud Drive  
Redding, CA 96001-0162

FRRS 2022 Election Committee Members:  
Matthew Shuman - FL 1948 - Chair  
Ann Morningstar – L 1967 - Co-Chair  
Debbie Shuman - FL 1948 - Clerk/Catering  
Facilitator to the Election Committee

### 2022 FRRS Election Schedule

January 1, 2022 - Nominations open.

January 31, 2022 - Nominations close. No late nominations will be accepted.

February 14, 2022 - Candidate Statements must be received along with Payment. (Statements to be sent to Board within 5 days of statement closing date for Board review before February 28<sup>th</sup>.)

March 7, 2022 - Last day nominees may withdraw their name in writing to the Election Committee.

-- WHITE BALLOT DECLARED --

**2022 Western Pacific Historical Convention**  
**“Celebrating the Western Pacific Family”**  
**Convention Events in Reno May 12<sup>th</sup> ~ May 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

**2022 WP Historic Convention Reno, NV.**

- Kerry Cochran

By now, most of us know about the FRRS/WPRM 2022 Convention being held in Reno, Nevada, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>, with special events at the Western Pacific Railroad Museum on Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup>. The museum will be closed to the general public and non-working members on that Sunday.

Barring any unforeseen events, we are planning some interesting presentations by Chris Skow, Greg Elems, Eugene Vicknair, Kerry Cochran, Steve Cope and possibly more (all pending schedule changes).

For those convention goers who enjoy model-layout tours, we have not been able to confirm any layout tours in the area yet, but are working to see what can be arranged, please watch for more information.

The Saturday night banquet speaker, Tom Hervey, should provide a fascinating look into one man's career in the railroad industry and the WP, along with his long time association with the FRRS.

If you have not registered for the convention yet, please do so before the cutoff date of May 2<sup>nd</sup>. You can register online or download a paper registration from the convention website: [convention.WPLives.org](http://convention.WPLives.org).

Please watch the FRRS website for updated information. It will be updated as more information becomes available and convention schedules are finalized.

Should you have any questions, please contact Eugene Vicknair, Kerry Cochran or Greg Elems. You can always send a message via the convention team's email address: [convention@wplives.org](mailto:convention@wplives.org)

---

**Reno Convention Events as of 3/26/2022 (subject to change)**

**Virginia and Truckee Excursion (Day)**

Meet and Greet (Meeting rooms - lobby)

Archive-Model-Photo Exhibit

**WP/NCO Depot Mixer (Night)**

Chris Skow **Train Wrecks and Derailments of the WP**

Greg Elems **Freight cars on the WP**

Eugene Vicknair **Branch Lines of Plumas County/Western Pacific's**

**Enduring Reno Branch**

Kerry Cochran **WP MoW**

Virgil Staff Films

Mike Coen **Proto-Freelance WP Power**

Kerry Cochran **Guided Tour of Historical-Archive Website Pages**

Chris Skow **UP 6900 Class Centennials**

Kerry Cochran **WP 65' Mill Gondola**

Chris Skow **Feather River Express 2009**

Steve Cope **Time Flies & the Feather Flows**

Open Time - Visit Display - Vendor Room

No-Host Mixer (Prior to Banquet)

Banquet, Raffle, Model Contest results

**Note: Sunday Special Events for convention guests and working members ONLY**

Bus to Portola - WPRM

Mini Buses every 1/2 hour between museum and Chris Skow's layout on Sunday

Special Train at the WPRM

Return bus for hotel in Reno



**See [convention.WPLives.org](http://convention.WPLives.org)  
for latest updates to program.**

**2022 Western Pacific Historical Convention**  
**“Celebrating the Western Pacific Family”**  
**Special Events in Portola on Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

### Sunday Convention Events at the Museum

The 2022 WP Convention, being held May 12-14, 2022 in Reno, Nevada, will end with an exclusive Museum Day on Sunday, May 15 for those attending the WP Convention. Convention attendees will board a charter bus, or drive themselves, to the Western Pacific Railroad Museum in Portola where they will be given the first public opportunity to ride behind restored steam locomotive Western Pacific 0-6-0 165. Guided tours of the collection will also be offered and other special operations are in the works. In addition, convention attendees will be able to board a shuttle bus that takes them to the home of FRRS member Chris Skow, where they will be able to experience his spectacular garden railway and tour his collection of Western Pacific artifacts.

This event will be exclusive for those attending the WP Convention and the museum will be closed to the public on that day

### Chris Skow's Plans for the 2022 Convention

- Chris Skow

I continue to be very involved with the Feather River Rail Society and Western Pacific Railroad Museum. I am looking forward to the Western Pacific convention in Reno, Nevada on May 12-15, 2022. I will be showing three programs at this convention. They will be:

1. Feather River Express 2009
2. Train Wrecks and Derailments on the Western Pacific
3. Union Pacific 6900 Class Centennials on the Western Pacific

On May 15, 2022, there will be special events at our museum which will include a number of photo opportunities for conventioners. Also, I will have my personal railroad museum open which includes thousands of railroad artifacts of which most are related to the Western Pacific. Additionally I will have my huge outside G-Scale model railroad in operation which measures 70' by 300' and will have several trains operating. My layout includes mountains, tunnels, waterfalls, creeks, ponds and villages. My home is six miles west of Portola in the Blairsden Township and free shuttle service will be available from the museum in Portola to my home. I hope to see you there.

I have seven DVDs available for sale that are related to the Western Pacific and you can purchase them through our museum store or at my table at the convention. They are:

- WESTERN PACIFIC THE FINAL YEARS
- WORKING THE SPERRY CAR ON THE WESTERN PACIFIC
- TRAIN WRECKS AND DERAILMENTS ON THE WESTERN PACIFIC
- UNION PACIFIC CENTENNIALS IN THE FEATHER RIVER CANYON
- FEATHER RIVER EXPRESS 2009
- FEATHER RIVER EXPRESS II 2010
- NORTHERN CALIFORNIA EXPLORER

Photos at left from Chris Show's museum.



### Things Around the Museum: How Did that 53 Foot Container Get to the WPRR Museum?

- Peter Baumhefner

No, it didn't fall off of one of the many UPRR intermodal trains that passed through Portola between 2000 and 2010. Actually, it arrived at the museum through the thoughts and acts of a number of caring members of the organization who made known the need to a second home "neighbor" in the area.

Every museum needs extra capacity to store things inside and out of the elements of weather. That need at the WPRR Museum became apparent in 2008 through conversation with members and engineers Craig Simmons and Jack Zygnier. Craig and Jack knew their neighbor, in what was then known as Gold Mountain, worked for Pacer Stacktrain. In casual conversation with Pete Baumhefner on a day Pete was occupying his home in Gold Mountain, Jack mentioned the museum was looking for a used container. Pete was Executive Vice President of Operations of Pacer Stacktrain at the time and knew Pacer was in the process of retiring a number of its older 53' containers as new containers came on line. Pete has always had a passion for railroading and for societies that work hard to maintain the historical significance of railroads that no longer exist today and was delighted to learn of an opportunity to help the WPRR Museum.

Pete talked to the Equipment Team at Pacer Stacktrain and found a suitable used 53' container that was slated to be retired in the near future after making nearly a thousand trips across the United States carrying goods we all use. He also worked with some of Pacer's drayage partners to determine capability of moving the container from the Bay Area to Portola. A plan and time frame were developed to deliver the container to the WPRR Museum.

It wasn't long after the planning stages that the container was picked up near Oakland and drayed up to Portola and delivered to the museum where it was quickly put to good use.

Pete subsequently retired from Pacer Stacktrain in 2010 and actually moved to Gold Mountain full time

in 2019 and lived there through May, 2021 when he moved to Southern California. He's been by the donated container a number of times in his visits to the museum and perhaps some of the items he's donated have found a place in the container until they reach the business floor of the museum.

Moral of the story: Whenever you are made aware of a need, communicate it, because you never know what connections you will make for the benefit of the organization that has the need!



Photo by Robbie Campbell



Photo by Greg Elems 2/9/2022

**Upcoming Mechanical Work**

- DS ELEMS

The planned line-up for locomotive work is as follows:

- SP2873: Finish work on cooling and oil systems, remaining work items to complete annual inspection requirements. Radiator work may take place later in the season as other shop work is wrapped up.
- WP1503: Inspect oil drain line, repair as required. Change oil filters. Oil change is recommended. Annual inspection.
- WP707: Injector work in conjunction with annual inspection. Install new batteries. Replace missing shutter pistons.
- WP805-A: Annual inspection. Removal of automatic brake stand and valves for rework. Replace missing shutter pistons and cover panels.
- WP2001: Radiator work. Replace oil filters. Annual inspection.

Non-rail equipment:

- Loed 534: Drain hydraulic system and replace rear motor directional controls and drain/return hoses. Fill with new hydraulic fluid and purge air from system.
- Case 580C: Change oil in diff/transaxle gearbox. Left inner transaxle seal leaks, parts are readily available but the required work will necessitate some planning and organization; it is possible that the entire rear end may need to be dropped.
- Kludge/tug: The usual preseason work.
- Club Car/golf cart: The usual preseason work.
- The Model T: Charlie Spikes has been heading up this particular project; those interested in working on it can be put in touch with him for the particulars on what needs to be done.

Some items may change status or priority as work progresses due to complications.

**All that's WP isn't Western Pacific**

Madeline McGraw of the Springfield Museum in Springfield, Oregon sent our Historical/Archive Department an inquiry about an item she found in their collection and wondered if it was related to the Western Pacific.

Kerry Cochran was able to identify it as an artifact of the Willamette and Pacific Railroad, headquartered in Albany, Oregon. The Western Pacific Railroad, did not have any stations or trackage that went into Springfield Oregon.



**Support the FRRS when you shop at Amazon!**

Use the link on the society web page to join the Amazon Smile Program.



**THE ULTIMATE EXPERIENCE - AN HOUR OF POWER**

Home of the original  
**"RUN A LOCOMOTIVE"**

You can operate one of our vintage diesel locomotives with your own private instructor. A certificate suitable for framing is awarded after each RAL session. Gift Certificates are also available in the Museum Store or on-line.

The RAL program is available from mid-April through mid-November, weather permitting. Call (530) 832 - 4532 for reservations  
[www.RunALocomotive.com](http://www.RunALocomotive.com)

**What the HECK is a CONTACTOR?**

- WP FUNDAMENTALS of ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT

The voltage of the generator can push current to the traction motors whenever the circuit between generator and motors is complete. A complete circuit includes a power contactor.

A power contactor is a remotely controlled switch. When the engineman desires to move his locomotive, he operates controlling levers which automatically cause power contactors to close to pass current from the generator to the traction motors. It is necessary that the contactor be remotely controlled, because of the fact that several locomotive units, each incorporating its own diesel engine, main generator and traction motors, may have to be operated from one throttle stand. Obviously, the engineman could not walk through the various units, manually closing the power contactors of each unit. Instead of this, the contactors must all be controlled from his position in the leading unit.

The figure below illustrates the remote control circuit which operates a contactor. When it is desired to run the fuel pump motor, the switch "5" is closed to allow battery current to flow through the operating coil of the contactor. This flow of current magnetizes the core and the latter then pulls the contact to closed position to permit current to reach the fuel pump motor. This power contactor is called a magnetic contactor.

Magnetic contactors are used in the fuel pump motor circuit, generator field circuits, and other small motor circuits. However, if the contactor is



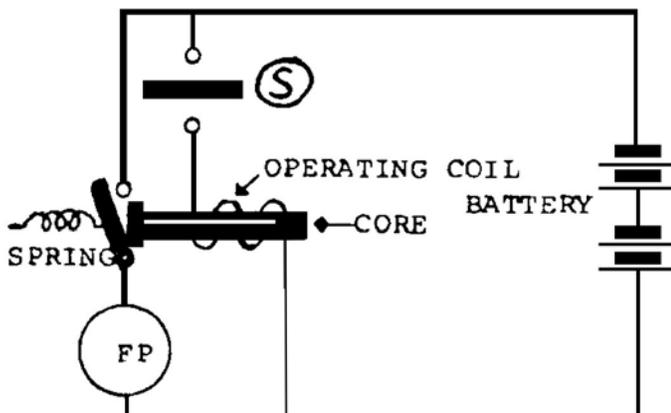
*Cam switch contactor for the traction motors from SP 2873. That is what you hear clicking when you go from power to dynamic brakes. Additional SP 2873 electrical photos are available online at [WPLives.org/trainsheet192](http://WPLives.org/trainsheet192). Photo by Greg Elems*

to be used in a traction motor circuit, it will be called upon to pass very heavy currents and it is important that the contactor contacts are pressed together very tightly. For this reason, pneumatic contactors are used.

The pneumatic contactor makes use of a solenoid and an air valve. When the engineer pulls his throttle from "Idle" to notch 1 the throttle closes a small contact which supplies voltage and current to a solenoid. When current flows through the solenoid coil, it moves the solenoid core by magnetic attraction and the moving core opens an air valve. The air valve admits control air pressure to the contactor's air cylinder where the air causes a piston to push the main contacts together. Proper control air pressure ensures that the contacts will be pressed together tightly.

The solenoid and air valve are usually mounted in the same assembly. The assembly is called a "magnet valve".

When low current circuits must be controlled remotely, a relay is used. A relay operates in the same manner as a magnetic contactor. However, its contacts are much lighter in construction than those of the magnetic contactor. This is true because the relay contacts rarely have to pass more than a very few amperes and therefore need not be heavily constructed.



### WP & WPRM Units Visit Carquinez Model Railroad Society

- Kerry Cochran

For most readers of the *Train Sheet*, by now you know that I am a HO modeler and have been for quite some time. We have a very diverse group of members who also model several different scales of model railroad equipment.

Over the past few years, I have been fortunate to be able to continue to meet and be part of several model railroad organizations. As I have mentioned in the past, I am a member of the NMRA (National Model Railroad Association) and I have also been able to visit several model railroad clubs.

At one of these clubs, The Carquinez Model Railroad Society (see: <https://cmrstrainclub.org/>), I have been able to visit upon invitation by a couple of FRRS/WPRM members.

This has led to some fun of running some of my models of the Western Pacific which I would not normally have the opportunity to do since I do not currently have a model railroad layout to operate on.

On Sunday February 20<sup>th</sup>, I visited the Carquinez Club layout and was able to run some of my WP models.

While the SP 2873 is not a WP locomotive, it does live at our museum and when Walthers came out with it a year ago, I purchased one as a

unit to go along with some of the other WP models I have and to use it as a display piece for anytime I wanted to describe the collection of locomotives at the museum.

This gave me the opportunity to run this locomotive as it had not been run (except to program the DCC unit number). Fresh out of the box along with the WP 729, both units ran very well on this club layout.



*In this photo you can see the WP 729 and SP 2873 running East bound starting across the Carquinez Bridge.*



*Here is WP 1983 (UP Heritage Unit) with a string of WP cars running through the mountains.*



*In the above photo you can see WP 729 and SP 2873 with a string of WP cars.*

This is one of the joys of modeling and being involved in a railroad society.

If you ever get a chance, you should visit the Carquinez Model Railroad Society.

2020 Top Web Pages		
Total pageviews in 2020 = 127,525		
	Pageviews	%
WPRM Webcam	27,795	21.80%
WPRM Home	23,722	18.60%
WPRM Collection	4,578	3.59%
WPRM RAL	3,582	2.81%
SN Home Page	3,274	2.57%
WPRM Locomotives	2,514	1.97%
WPRM Archives	2,021	1.58%
WPRM Steam	1,483	1.58%
WPRM Visit Us	1,331	1.04%
2020 Closure	1,278	1.00%
WPRM Trainride	1,022	0.80%
Boxcars	975	0.76%
2020 Convention	884	0.69%
Minutes & Reports	850	0.67%
Passengercars	800	0.63%
Freightcars	730	0.57%
Operations	657	0.52%

2021 Top Web Pages		
Total pageviews in 2021 = 165,324		
	Pageviews	%
WPRM Home	31,624	19.13%
WPRM Webcam	31,095	18.81%
WPRM Collection	5,978	3.62%
WPRM RAL	5,346	3.23%
SN Home Page	4,893	2.96%
WPRM Locomotives	2,486	1.50%
WPRM Visit Us	2,477	1.48%
WPRM Archives	2,025	1.22%
WPRM Steam	1,770	1.07%
WPRM Trainride	1,684	1.02%
WP Mileposts	1,678	1.01%
WPRM Tour	1,313	0.79%
Operations	1,231	0.74%
2021 Closure	1,103	0.67%
Shop	968	0.59%
Minutes & Reports	936	0.57%
Boxcars	834	0.50%

**FRRS Website 2021 Update**

- Paul Finnegan

The society’s website, WPLives.org, continues to be a resource of information about the FRRS and the WPRM for both the public and our members. Website traffic increased 29.6% from 2020 to 2021. We currently have 5,579 web pages on the website. Additionally there are over 36,000 photos and 8,659 PDF files posted.

In 2021 we continued to add material and tools to the website. The 2021 highlights included:

**First Use of Mailtrain Tool**, that allows us to manage bulk emails campaigns for the society. People can subscribe or unsubscribe to the email lists.

**WP Mileposts** – All 255 issues of the WP’s employee newsletter from August 1949 through March 1983, just before the merger with Union Pacific, have been posted. They have a Custom Google Search Engine to help users find specific material.

**“Around the Museum 2021 Gallery”** – was created to show photos of museum and FRRS events from 2021.

**New Style Mobile Home Page** – an improved mobile home page was release on 6/24/21. The intent is to bring right to the top the things a mobile user (think someone driving down SR70 and seeing the museum sign) would want to know to visit us.

**New (mobile friendly!) Tour at the Museum** – Three years ago, I created a set of web pages that was intended to serve as an audio tour guide for visitors to the museum. During the 2021 off-season, Kenneth Finnegan created a new framework for the material that is better suited for visitors to use on their mobile phones to learn about things around the museum. Working together, we have

**FRRS Website 2021 Update (continued)**

released the new tour site.

Kenneth Finnegan has created a set of laminated **EXHIBIT CODE signs** with the QR code and URL and posted them on many pieces of equipment and other artifacts around the museum that link to the new tour system.

**WP Headlights** from the 1940's are now on the H/A home page – a complete set of the WP's employee magazine from the 1940's has been posted. Not to be confused with the FRRS publication, *THE WESTERN PACIFIC Headlight*. The page also has a Google Custom Search Engine that covers only the Headlight issues from the 1940's.

**Social Media** – In an effort to support the FRRS' and WPRM's social media presence, two new social media accounts are now linked from our website. I added a link to the “westernpacificlives” Instagram account being maintained by Big Fish Creations using the standard Instagram icon. I also added a link to a new Twitter account, “frrswprm”, being maintained by Kenneth Finnegan using the standard Twitter icon.

**Google for Business** – On 8/27/21, Eugene Vicknair added me as a manager of the Western Pacific Railroad Museum Google My Business account. I now have the ability to maintain the information for the WPRM that Google shows when someone searches for our museum. This has allowed me to keep information such as the museum hours up to date. I have added notices (e.g. our ½ price admission offer, 10% off FRRS/WPRM Apparel and Products and the Photo Workshop on 11/6/21) to the Google Search results.

**Yelp** – Similar to the access to the Google My Business page, I now have access to our Yelp account. It has fewer capabilities than the Google page, but I made several updates and corrections to it.

**H/A Collections** – A new set of pages have been added to the Historical/Archive web pages posting photos from our archive collections on the website. Currently there are 7,948 photos posted. Many have captions about the photo.

**Wikipedia** – On 9/9/21, I created a Wikipedia Editor account using one of the FRRS's Google accounts and have started doing some updates and enhancements to the WPRM Wikipedia page. Everyone is invited to send me material, suggestions or corrections for the page.

**Museum Online Store** – Working with Eugene Vicknair, we launched the WPRM Online Store on Friday 9/24/21. In addition to posting it in the Latest Museum News column and on the home page, I added a “Shop Online” entry in the “About Us” pull-down menu. Additionally there is a new “Shop” link on all the web pages that have standard footers. A Mailtrain email blast was sent to 270 subscribers announcing the store opening and a post was made on the Google My Business page.

**WP 165 Fire Up 11/13/21** – I received 66 photos and three videos from Michael Clawson of Big Fish Creations from the WP 165 Fire Up that occurred on 11/13/21. I used the photos to create a new gallery, “WP 165 Fire Up Nov 13 2021” and posted the videos to our YouTube channel.

**We get emails...**

- Paul Finnegan  
FRRS Webmaster

On February 20, 2022, we got an email from a former member who asked if we have an index to the Headlight articles.

I was able to direct him to the Historical/Archive Department home page that has links to List of

articles in THE WESTERN PACIFIC Headlight magazines, THE WESTERN PACIFIC Headlight Master Index

and THE WESTERN PACIFIC Headlight Article Reprints. I also pointed out that most issues of the Headlight are available for purchase in the Museum Store and online at our online store.

The former member replied the next day thanking me for the information and stated, "I see numerous issues I would like, so will be ordering from the company store. I was a member a long time ago but I guess I fell out of touch. Probably rejoin soon also."

I replied, sharing the link to join/renew online and he promptly renewed his membership.

This is another example of the FRRS performing our mission to preserve, interpret and educate the public about the history and people of the Western Pacific Railroad.



- Paul Finnegan  
FRRS Webmaster

Did you know that the material for the FRRS Board Meetings is available online at WPLives.org? It is posted on the "Minutes & Reports" web page under the Members pull-down menu.

In an effort to modernize and improve the availability of the FRRS Board Meeting material, we have added an email subscription service using Mailtrain.

We will send you an email with a link to the Minutes & Reports web page where you can view the material online or download a single ZIP file of all the meeting material when material is posted. Each email will contain an unsubscribe link if you decide to discontinue this service.

Sign up to receive an email when FRRS Board Meeting Material becomes available online on the Subscribe web page on the WPLives.org website.

*Greg and David Elems fired up QRR 1100 and took it out around the balloon for quick bit of exercise and to inspect the track on 2/22/2022. All seems good and we really need some more snow.*

*Photo by Greg Elems*

**Would YOU like to work on the Railroad?**

**Join our Operating Department!**

- Paul Finnegan, Crew Caller

The museum operates trains every weekend between Memorial Day and Labor Day. We also run our Pumpkin Express in October, Santa Trains in December and special event trains. If you have always wanted to have a taste of "working on the railroad", such as connecting air hoses, giving hand signals to the engineer and pulling pins on couplers, then this is your opportunity.



FRRS members (active and above) who would like to participate in the museum's train operating crews are required first to take a rules examination, sign a liability release and then to be instructed in safe operating procedures.

Two crew-training classes are scheduled for 2022. They are scheduled for Saturday, April 9<sup>th</sup> and Saturday, June 11<sup>th</sup>, starting at 10 am at the museum in Portola. You need only attend one day of training. Please use the "Join our Operating Department" link on the museum's home web page to register for the class day of your choice. Rule exams are available online after you register for class.



**Get Onboard and Come Join Us for the Annual Members' Dinner & Meeting at the Museum on June 11<sup>th</sup>, 2022!**

*Photo from the Kenneth J. Meeker Corporate WP Archives - FRRS Archives*

**Upcoming Events!**

- April 9 Operations Crew Training – 10:00 AM
- Board Meeting – 1:00 PM – WPRM, Portola
- April 14 Museum Opens to Public
- April 18-24 Steam Department Work Session
- May 9-14 Steam Department Work Session
- May 12-15 2022 Western Pacific Railroad Historical Convention – Reno, NV
- May 14 Board Meeting – 9:00 AM – WP Convention, Reno
- May 15 Museum Closed to the public and non-working members – Convention Special Event: First official steam operations Western Pacific 0-6-0 165
- May 21 Railroad Photography Workshop
- May 28 Opening of Operating Season – Train operations 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM
- May 29 Train ops 11:30 AM – 3:00 PM
- May 30 Memorial Day – Museum Open 10 AM to 5 PM - Train ops 11:30 AM – 2:00 PM
- June 4 Lost and Found Gravel Grinder Bike Race in Plumas County
- June 11 Operating Department Second 2022 Crew Training – 10 AM
- Board Meeting – 3 PM – WPRM, Portola
- Members Dinner – 5:30 PM
- Annual Membership Meeting – 7 PM
- July 4 Independence Day – Museum Open 10 - 5
- Train Operations 11:30 AM – 2 PM
- July 9 Board Meeting – 4:30 PM – WPRM, Portola
- Installation of New Board
- August 13 Board Meeting – 4:30 PM – WPRM, Portola



### Museum Sponsors

The Western Pacific played a major role in developing the economy of Plumas County and the surrounding region. The Western Pacific Railroad Museum is proud to be a part of that heritage and to hold a position in supporting the ongoing economic health of our community. We welcome the support of that community in return. Helping to preserve the Western Pacific is good for tourism, good for our regional culture and good for business.

We ask our members and visitors to support our business sponsors, companies who have generously contributed to the museum and its mission to preserve the Western Pacific family.

If you are a business owner, see how you can support the WP Museum, your community and improve your advertising and networking outreach through our sponsorship program. See [www.wplives.org/sponsors\\_how\\_to\\_become.html](http://www.wplives.org/sponsors_how_to_become.html) to learn how.



DAVID HANSEN - SUSANVILLE

H & R Block - David Hansen

2850 Main St Ste 7, Susanville, CA 96130  
Tel: 530-257-9339



**XELECTRIX Electrical Contractor Sacramento RV & Mobile Home Park Electrical Service**

Citrus Heights, CA 95610  
Website: [xelectrix.com](http://xelectrix.com)  
Email: [service@xelectrix.com](mailto:service@xelectrix.com)  
916-967-1922

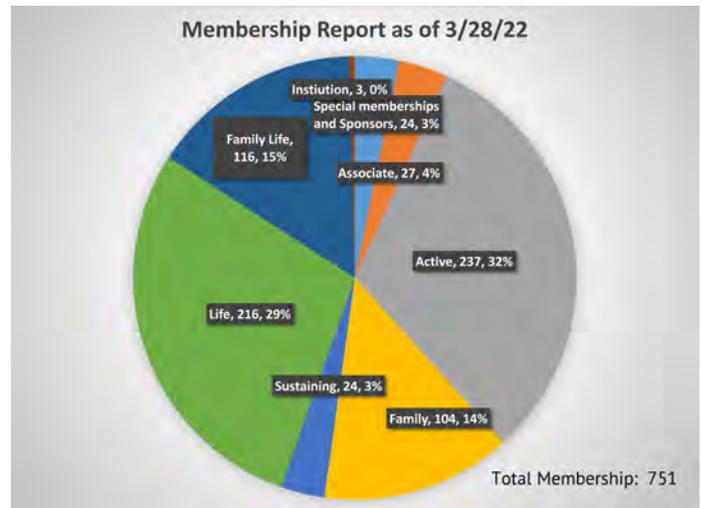


Photo below: CZ Inauguration 3-19-1949 San Francisco  
Ken Meeker Collection - FRRS Archives

### Catch the Early Train!

Get your Train Sheet by email and you will get it before the post office even receives it and it is in COLOR!  
(and you save the FRRS money too!)

Send an email requesting email delivery to [membership@wplives.org](mailto:membership@wplives.org) with your name and email address.



**- FRRS Membership -****Yearly Dues**

Associate \$25.00  
 Active \$50.00  
 Family \$80.00  
 Sustaining \$150.00

**Single Life Membership** - \$1800.00

**Family Life Membership** - \$3000.00

**Institutional** - \$60.00 (annual membership for 501(c)3 groups)

Renew or change your information on  
 the FRRS website! Go to:  
<https://membership.WPlives.org>

These are the dues for the duration of one year, with Life and Family Life being a one-time payment.  
 Five year payment plans are available for life memberships.

**Associate** memberships do not have a vote, receive *The Train Sheet* but not the *Headlight* and are for one person only.

**Active** memberships receive both *The Train Sheet* and the *Headlight*, have voting rights and are for one person only.

**Family** memberships receive both *The Train Sheet* and the *Headlight*, have two votes and include two adults and all minor children residing at the same address.

**Sustaining** memberships receive both *The Train Sheet* and *Headlight*, have voting rights and are for one person only.

**Life** memberships receive both *The Train Sheet* and *Headlight*, have voting rights and are for one person only for life.

**Family Life** memberships receive both *The Train Sheet* and the *Headlight*, include two adults and all minor children residing at the same address, and have two votes (one per member) for life.

Send all applications, renewals and address changes, including email changes, to:  
 Feather River Rail Society - Membership Dept. - P.O. Box 608 - Portola, CA 96122-0608  
 Address / email changes may also be sent to [membership@wplives.org](mailto:membership@wplives.org)

**Mission Statement**

"The Feather River Rail Society is dedicated to the preservation, interpretation and education of the public, as to the history and people of the Western Pacific Railroad."

**Mission Goals**

To preserve and interpret the history of the WP, the "*Willing People*" as a vital link in the development of the rail industry on the West Coast, including the steam and diesel evolution, WP's influence in the passenger tourism industry, the impact of freight competition between neighboring railroads, and WP's influence in the lumber, mining and agriculture industry from Plumas County throughout California, Nevada and Utah.

**WPRM Admission and Train Ride Fares for non-members (effective April 2, 2020)****Admission**

- Adult (ages 19 - 64): \$10.00
- Youth (ages 5 - 18): \$5.00
- Child (age 4 and under): free
- Senior (65 and up) and Active Military: \$8.00
- Family (defined as 2 adults plus any related children 18 and under): \$25.00

Admission and train ride tickets are good all day.

Admission and train rides for FRRS members are free.  
 Cab rides are extra fare with member discount.

**Train Rides (all day)**

- Adults 19 -64: \$4.00
- Youth 5 - 18: \$2.00
- Child 4 and under: free
- Senior (65 and up) and Active Military: \$4.00
- Family (defined as 2 adults plus any related children 18 and under): \$10.00

**Cab Rides**

- Adults 19 -64: \$20.00
  - Youth 5 - 18: \$10.00
  - Senior (65 and up) and Active Military: \$20.00
- Cab rides are for one (1) ride only.

***The Train Sheet* needs your photos and articles!**

If you are working on projects for the Society, volunteering on restorations, performing archives work, helping out at off-site events, etc., or if you get some nice photos of FRRS or museum happenings that you want to share, please contact us to have them printed in *The Train Sheet*.

Photos should be at least 5" high by 7" wide and 300 dots per inch.

Articles should focus on FRRS related events, people or your own personal experiences with the Society.

To contribute, contact the editor - Paul Finnegan, by email at [trainsheet@wplives.org](mailto:trainsheet@wplives.org).

**The Train Sheet**  
Feather River Rail Society  
P.O. Box 608  
Portola, CA 96122-0608

PRESORTED  
STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
San Jose, CA  
PERMIT # 10

Change Service Requested

# 2022 Western Pacific Historical Convention



**“Celebrating the Western Pacific Family”**

**May 12-15, 2022 - Thursday, Friday, Saturday**

**PLUS special Sunday events at the Western Pacific Railroad Museum - Portola**  
**Thursday - Virginia and Truckee Excursion and Mixer at The Depot Brewery**  
Hosted by the SureStay Plus Hotel - located in Reno, Nevada - 1981 Terminal Way, 89502