

Director's Report

Steve Habeck, Vice-President

Back in May, President McClure told me to go ahead and work on making the business car, UP 105, more suitable for visitors to go through without getting into things they shouldn't (like toilets). This is in line with our attempts to address a major visitor complaint that all of our passenger cars were always locked up, and they couldn't see them, because we couldn't staff the cars.

Now, 2 months, over 150 hours' work, and \$2700 later, the 105 is open for visitors as a self-guided tour. The bedrooms, toilets, and kitchen are secured by Plexiglas panes, hinged and bolted to the door frames. Almost every light bulb has been replaced, and all fixtures were cleaned. Two rooms are set up for daytime, the other two for nighttime, and lit accordingly. The stereo in the dining room has been fixed, and all the speakers in the dining room and the lounge work fine. I added a CD player (and one for the Plate), and a locking switch so the stereo can't be fired up by the tourists. Other small details will be evident throughout the car.

I did not address the issue of the stained carpets and ceilings; this was beyond the scope of what I wanted to accomplish. I did, however, use a shop vac nozzle, on my hands and knees, and vacuumed the entire car. You'd be surprised at what I found. I also cleaned all the windows (on the inside, so far), and all horizontal surfaces, which were coated with a heavy layer of oily soot and dirt from the road.

I would like all the Directors and officers to go through this car and see what has been accomplished, and take note of what else could be done (a DVD/Blue-Ray player with a flat-screen TV for the lounge comes to mind).

I have also installed the large dining room shadow box from the Disney collection in the Plate, and am in the process of hanging some of the photos from Disney in the car. I have upgraded the music system in the car by installing a CD player, and hooking up the spare speaker to the other channel on the receiver and placing it in the kitchen, giving a much better stereo effect. This stereo system is also protected from undesired use by opening breaker #1 in the breaker box in the kitchen, which is for the outlet in the cabinet where the stereo is installed.

Beyond this work, we are preparing for RR Days and the scrapping adventure, and trying to keep the fleet running. I took a total of 4 days off from the Museum in July, and have not missed a day this month yet.