



Historical/Archive Department Report

6/6/2023

This year's Joint NMRA/PCR/FRRS Convention was held at the Courtyard by Marriott Cal Expo in Sacramento April 26<sup>th</sup> to the 30<sup>th</sup>.

This convention was the third joint convention in cooperation with the NMRA/PCR/FRRS (National Model Railroad Association/Pacific Coast Division/Feather River Rail Society), Like other convention held in Modesto (2016) and Sacramento (2019), the groups had a convention committee made up of members from each group that meet for several months planning the convention.

The convention started out on Wednesday April 26<sup>th</sup> with an evening reception and by early morning Thursday April 27<sup>th</sup> there was a busy schedule to get all the events set up and ready to start the opening clinics and presentations by 8:30 a.m.

The convention continued from Thursday to Sunday. There were several very good clinics and presentations by our members, our friends and members of the PCR. Several outside tours, including the Siemens Mobility Factory in Sacramento and the California State Railroad Museum.

Overall the attendance reached 150 members of both groups with the FRRS having 37 members, some of which hold dual membership in both organizations.

A convention survey was sent out and 60 attendees responded with an overall "Extremely Satisfied" with the convention. While there were some issues noted with certain services that were not available during lunch time.

This year's convention had a new experience for the FRRS, clinic and presentation given were streamed live to attendees who registered for the virtual offering. One of those presentation is on the FRRS Historical/Archive website and is available for viewing.



Planning for the FRRS convention in 2024 is currently in progress and we hope to be able to confirm the date and location soon. (Currently we are looking at holding it in Oroville, California on April 11, 12 and 13 2024.

Since the museum is open now for the 2023 season, the Historical/Archive Department will reopen on a limited basis as staff is available. (Please contact the archive staff to make arrangements to visit.)

We have been making more improvement to the H/A webpages 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.

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. These are directed to a mailing list so that they can be addressed.

As I point out in each of my reports every month, we still need some donation help with the materials needed to keep the archives moving forward and protecting them.



### **Needs for the Archives:**

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!

Items listed below are still needed to help keep our collection stored properly and should you wish to help us out, we certainly would like your donation and help.

- Computer program to track all the Historical/Archive items
- Original copy of Windows 10 to be used in the Archive Department
- Archive storage boxes for 35mm slides. (We need more, as we have over 20,000 + slides and counting!)
- Large archival storage boxes

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.

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

Kerry Cochran  
Director/General Superintendent/Archive Manager