

‘I’ve been workin’ on the Railroad...’

By Gail McClure and Eugene Vicknair

There are some jobs that are so unglamorous you can't pay someone to do them. In the case of the PRM, such jobs typically fall on a small group of volunteers who spend their weekends painting floors, cleaning work bays, repairing electrical systems and other little seen but very important tasks that all contribute to keeping the museum open and running.

Last year we tried scheduled work weekends for achieving progress on track and facilities. Happily, these turned out to work rather well and have been expanded for the coming year. I would ask all members to find a weekend when they can join the crews and help make the museum a better place for all of us. Meals are provided to all crews and volunteers are invited to stay overnight at the museum. A sense of satisfaction and camaraderie are available free of charge.

March

29-30 Work Weekend

April

26-27 Work Weekend

May

17-18 Work Weekend

24 *Operating Season Begins*

August

9-10 Work Weekend

September

1 *Operating Season Ends*

27-28 Work Weekend

Tasks on these weekends will center on both track upgrading (and perhaps even laying new track!) and repairs and improvements to the general facility.

The days generally start around 9-10 AM and go until 5-6 PM. Work will be progressing on the Volunteer Area, including expanding and improving the deck and converting the infamous *Silver Debris* bunk car into a volunteer lounge.

WP Track Charts Reprint

The Feather River Rail Society is pleased to announce a limited run printing of the complete track charts of the Western Pacific Railroad including the Sacramento Northern and Tidewater Southern. Reproduced from an original booklet dated January 1, 1981 the complete system is represented including all branches. Spiral bound and printed on high quality paper with heavy color covers which are protected by a clear protective sheet this will be a great addition to your collection. Printed size is 8-1/2 x 11 in landscape format.

Retail price will be 45.95 with a member price of 41.35. Shipping and handling is 5.00 each. California residents please include 7.25% sales tax.

Send orders to;

WP Track Chart
c/o FRRS
P.O. Box 608
Portola, CA 96122-0608

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Also, we are hoping to have the carpentry bay in the Diesel Shop revamped and made into a functional and fully equipped woodworking shop before the end of the season.

Over the weekends of February 22-23 and March 1-2, a great deal of work occurred to help get the museum ready for the Ops Season and Public Opening.

Thanks to David and Vicki Epling, Eric Stephens, Rod and Gail McClure, Steve Habeck, Doug Morgan, Hank Stiles, Alan Hirasawa, Frank Brehm and everyone else who came up and joined in.

Ever wonder what it takes to keep the train on the rails? A lot of hard work and sweat, that's what!

This year, Roadmaster Rod McClure invites members and non-members alike to dig out ties, swing a spike maul, and dump ballast as we continue on our much needed maintenance track (yes, the pun was intended).

The second of several Museum work weekends is scheduled for April 26th and 27th, 2003.

All volunteers will be provided lunch and a home cooked dinner, courtesy of Chief Cook and Bottleswasher, Gail McClure.

We need all the help we can get.

And if physical limitations keep you from participating on the "train gang", there are likely to be a couple of other projects that can use your assistance.

Hard work, good fun, and hot food – what more could you ask for? Look forward to seeing you there!

If you have any questions or need any information, please contact Eugene Vicknair at Facilities@wplives.org, or Rod McClure at Roadmaster@wplives.org and include the words WORK WEEK-ENDS in the subject line so that your message is not mistakenly overlooked.

2003 Railfan Photographers Day

By Gail McClure

Mark your calendar to attend the FRRS 17th Annual Railfan Photographer's Day, September 20, 2003. Plans include the return of railroaders/swaps meets, mid-day motorcar rides, as well as evening slide show and night photography sessions hosted by Vic Neves of Winterail fame. Lunch and dinner B-B-Q will be available on site for a modest fee.

A new venue coming this year is our Featured Authors Table. To date, Adam Clegg and Norman Holmes will be available for book signing and to discuss current and future volumes. Bring copies of their work or purchase on site (subject to availability). We hope to continue to add names to this list so please watch for updates in forthcoming issues of The Train Sheet.

Tickets will be available for advance purchase May 1st, 2003 and the museum will be closed to the general public. Ticket prices are \$15 for adults, \$10 for ages 5-12, free under 5. Each ticket holder will also receive an entry into drawings for a variety of door prizes. Additional tickets will be available for \$2 each or 3/\$5. Please contact Gail McClure at rrwid-ow@alpine.net or Frank Brehm at wplives@attbi.com and include the words RAILFAN DAY in the subject line of your message.

Events subject to change

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