

# THE TRAIN SHEET

*Preserving "THE FEATHER RIVER ROUTE"*

News from the Feather River Rail Society



Issue 138 . Jan-Apr 2007

2007 WPRRHS Convention - WP S4 563

2008 FRRS Calendar and Information

*Twenty seven years after it was built, UP 9989, ex-WP 3555, a GP40-2, works in Palo Alto, CA - photo by Eugene John Vicknair*

**- THE TRAIN SHEET -**

News from the Feather River Rail Society and the Western Pacific Railroad Museum at Portola

Editor - Eugene John Vicknair  
408.839.5750 or via e-mail at  
trainsheet@wplives.org

Contribution Deadlines: Last Day of February, April, June, August, October and December

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

P.O. Box 608 . Portola, CA . 96122-0608

Museum: 530.832.4131  
Fax: 530.832.1854

The museum grounds are open to the public from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM daily from the first Saturday in March through the first Monday in November. The Diesel Shop is open from 10:00 AM until 5:00 PM daily during these dates.

Train operations begin the last Saturday in May and continue each weekend through the first Monday in September.

The museum grounds are closed to the public from the first Tuesday in November through the first Friday in March except for special events in which advance arrangements have been made. 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 is free, although a suggested donation of \$5.00 is greatly appreciated.

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.

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

FRRS Tax ID number is 68-0002774  
Member of the Association of Railway Museums and the Tourist Railway Association, Inc

**- BOARD OF DIRECTORS and OFFICERS -**

Rod McClure	President	president@wplives.org
Dan Brady	Treasurer	treasurer@wplives.org
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Thom Anderson	WPRRHS Admin	
John Walker	Museum Manager	

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**- WEB PAGES of INTEREST -**

FRRS Official Site	<a href="http://www.WPLives.org">www.WPLives.org</a>
WPRR Historical Society	<a href="http://www.wprrhs.org">www.wprrhs.org</a>
CZ Virtual Museum	<a href="http://calzephyr.railfan.net">calzephyr.railfan.net</a>
Western Pacific Pages	<a href="http://www.WPLives.com">www.WPLives.com</a>
WP Virtual Museum	<a href="http://wpmuseum.railfan.net">wpmuseum.railfan.net</a>
Sac Northern On-Line	<a href="http://www.people.virginia.edu/~ggg9y">www.people.virginia.edu/~ggg9y</a>
Tidewater Southern Pages	<a href="http://www.TidewaterSouthern.com">www.TidewaterSouthern.com</a>
Tidewater Southern	<a href="http://www5.pair.com/rattenne/WP/TidelIndex.htm">www5.pair.com/rattenne/WP/TidelIndex.htm</a>
Central Calif Traction	<a href="http://www.trainweb.org/tractionco/">www.trainweb.org/tractionco/</a>

## WPRRHS 2007 CONVENTION

- Thom Anderson, WPRRHS Administrator

The 11th annual WPRRHS convention was held in April at the Doubletree Club Hotel in Livermore, California. Over 130 people were in attendance, including two long-distance champions: one from Australia and one from Sweden. Everyone present appeared to have an enjoyable time, experiencing ten super presentations and sharing the camaraderie of talking with other WP fans there. Photos of the convention appeared in the latest issue of the Headlight.

A wide variety of subjects were presented, from the history of the Spanish Peak Lumber Company (located in the Feather River country) and modeling WP maintenance of way cars, to the rock trains that WP ran to Pleasanton. Other notable shows included Dale Sanders presentation on WP's locomotive mounted snowplows and Loren Dunlap's presentation of WP collectables. There were also several modeling clinics and virtual tours of some fabulous model railroad layouts. Wayne Monger, Kirk Baer and Bob Larson showed slides of WP from their collections.

Several vendors selling WP-related items were also in attendance. Several donations from local retailers and manufacturers including Walthers, Atlas, The Train Shop, Kadee, InterMountain, Super Art Media, Tom's Trackage Trains, Hobbies Unlimited, Pentrex, the WPRM Gift Shop, and others made for another successful raffle to generate funds for the WPRRHS Arthur W. Keddie Library & Archives. Annette Wright and her crew at the Doubletree did an outstanding job making our group feel at home in their facility.

Art Lloyd, who was employed for several years in the WP's Passenger and Public Relations departments, gave a heartfelt and completely unscripted talk after the banquet about his experiences on the WP, and his belief that the California Zephyr was the greatest passenger train. There was no argument from anyone there, and the Society greatly appreciates his taking the time to join us. Those that were at the Chico convention a year earlier will recall that Art was scheduled to speak there, but was unable to do so account of an unanticipated medical problem.

Trains Unlimited Tours donated a round trip for two from Oakland to Reno on a private passenger car to attend Portola Railroad Days. After Art's talk, the trip was auctioned, and the proceeds added to the Library fund.

Jim Dias and I extend our thanks to Art and all of the presenters, and to those who donated their time and products for their generous efforts to make the convention a success. Jim and I could not have done it without their help. A special "thank you" goes to Annie Neves and Barbara Anderson for their help at the registration table, Vic Neves for again handling the AV chores, and to Gail McClure for "leading the charge" selling raffle tickets.

Tom Campbell and his crew are in the process of organizing next year's convention at the Clarion Mansion Inn in Sacramento, California on April 11-12, 2008. He has set up an e-mail address for questions at [wpcon2008@yahoo.com](mailto:wpcon2008@yahoo.com). A link to the site is also at the WPRRHS website. We hope to see you there!

*- Norman Holmes and Eugene Vicknair also contributed to this report.*

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## MORE TRAIN SHEET CHANGES

- Eugene Vicknair, Train Sheet Editor

Due to a slowdown in contributions and some production problems, the publication of the Train Sheet has fallen behind. We have now instituted a number of changes to streamline production of the Train Sheet and increase the usable submissions of news and information for the membership.

Currently, we are also bringing out two special issues to help bridge the gap. If you have not already received Issue 139, you should receive it shortly. This issue highlights our growing archive collection, giving the membership a glimpse into the variety and depth of photos, paperwork and other small items that are now in the FRRS collection. Issue 141 will focus on the rolling stock held at the museum, including histories

and photos of some of our significant pieces.

We are also expanding the staff of the Train Sheet, adding an associate editor and production assistants. Finally, new options for printing and mailing are being researched with an eye toward lowering our press and shipping times.

In other news, the e-mail / PDF version of the Train Sheet has seen a steadily growing rate of sign-ups. Currently, about 6% of the membership are receiving their newsletter electronically. Starting with this issue, we are offering some color photos in the PDF version.

We have also received reports of members not receiving their Train Sheets due to issues with the post office. If you have missed recent issues, or ever feel you have missed an issue, please contact the editor at [TrainSheet@wplives.org](mailto:TrainSheet@wplives.org). Thank you!

## ROTH IRA DIRECT DONATIONS

It has come to our attention that a new IRS law was enacted in 2006 that allowed anyone with either a traditional or Roth IRA account who is 70 1/2 years or older can designate all or part of their required annual distribution to be given directly to a qualified charitable organization. Our Feather River Rail Society meets that qualification.

Normally IRA distributions are taxed as earned income (you didn't pay tax on the IRA contribution when you put the money in.) This distribution qualifies as a deduction from your gross income for the year. This is a tax savings for you and a benefit for our organization.

If you would like to make this donation to our organization you should consult with your IRA custodian for the appropriate forms. This donation does not affect your regular itemized or standard deductions.

The FRRS tax ID number is 68-0002774.

### 2008 BOARD ELECTIONS

The nomination period for 2008 FRRS Board of Directors election opens on January 1, 2008 and closes on January 31, 2008.

ANY member in good standing can declare their intention to run for the Board seats available in 2008. This can be done by sending a letter to the museum marked 2008 FRRS Election or by emailing to [election@wplives.org](mailto:election@wplives.org). Postmark or email must be no later than January 31, 2008. Anything after that day will be disregarded.

The 2008 Election Chairman is David Epling.

### 2008 Election Calendar

January 1-31

Director Nominations open for 2008 elections

March 1

Election Withdrawal Deadline

April 19

Election Ballots mailed to membership

May 3

Appointment of Election Tellers

May 24

Ballot Return Deadline - 5 PM

June 7

Annual Membership Meeting - 7:30 PM  
Election Results

### 2008 WPRRHS CONVENTION

The 12th Annual Western Pacific RR Historical Society Convention will be held April 11-12, 2008, in Sacramento, California. The convention will be at the Clarion Hotel Mansion Inn, located at 700 16th Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814.

Additional information on the 2008 WPRRHS Convention will be posted shortly on the WPRRHS webpage ([www.WPRRHS.org](http://www.WPRRHS.org) or reachable by link from the Society's main [www.WPLives.org](http://www.WPLives.org) website). If you are interested in being a convention presenter, or if you have any questions, please contact 2008 Convention Chairman, Tom Campbell via email at [wpcon2008@yahoo.com](mailto:wpcon2008@yahoo.com).

Sacramento was, of course, an important point throughout the Western Pacific's history. The railroad's main shops were located here until the Stockton Diesel Shop was built in the 1970's. After that, the Jeffrey Shops continued servicing freight cars. Sacramento was also home to subsidiary Sacramento Northern and was the northern terminus for subsidiary Central California Traction Company. When the WP embraced Centralized Traffic Control, the dispatching center was located in Sacramento, right behind the depot at 19th and J Streets. The depot still stands today, housing a Spaghetti Factory restaurant.

So please be sure to join us for a great time at the convention!

## WESTERN PACIFIC 563

- Norman Holmes

In the early 1950's Western Pacific was in the process of completing its dieselization program. Steam had been replaced by diesel east of Oroville in 1951 except for one or two Consolidations held in standby service. The Oroville-Keddie and Portola Keddie locals were being powered by Baldwin VO1000's (581-585), the Keddie-Westwood local had two Alco S-2s (559-561) that could be MU'd. These units were also used in helper service on the High Line. One undesirable characteristic with these Alcos was that they rode on Blunt trucks which had a tendency to "hunt" badly at speed which could damage the track.

WP took delivery of two Alco S-4 1,000 hp units in June, 1951. After serving the required time in Nevada to avoid California sales tax the units (563-564) were sent to Keddie to work the Westwood turn. These units rode on AAR switcher trucks which made them better suited for road work.

After delivery of EMD GP7s there was sufficient road power to assign one or more of these units to the Westwood turn, releasing the Alcos for service elsewhere.

My experience with the 563 was in the San Francisco and San Jose yards. I remember working with it in San Francisco. Because of a tunnel fire, which cut the direct route to the downtown freight house, WP obtained an alternate routing over the Santa Fe and Southern Pacific. This detour left the former line at Indiana Street WP used the Santa Fe tracks on Indiana Street to Mariposa where they crossed over the SP main line, then down between buildings to Sixteenth Street, up Sixteenth Street to the WP tracks.

WP had a large freight house on Brennan Street where WP LCL freight and several freight forwarding companies loaded and unloaded cars. There also were a number of other industries that had spur tracks in this area. The afternoon job would pull the empties from the freight house and other industries, the midnight job would spot loads for the next day.

The return trip from "uptown" involved a run down Sixteenth Street to near the SP main line where we had to be sure the switches were lined correctly for us, then around a sharp curve and up a steep grade to where we crossed over the SP.

Right when we crossed over the SP was a particularly hard pull. With the train hanging down behind you and the sharp curve at the top of the grade, this is where these Alcos really showed how they could pull. Usually a switchman or two would take a coffee can of sand and walk ahead of the engine pouring sand on the rail. The rail was full of burn marks where engines had spun their wheels. I would manipulate the throttle applying just enough throttle to keep moving, yet not allowing the wheels to spin. I always made it over the "hill".

I ran the 563 in San Jose quite often. The engineers did not like it in Stockton where it usually worked so it was sent to San Jose. The trouble with it was that the independent brake had a slow release. When the wheels would start to slide you would release the brake to stop the sliding, but this would take so long that the unit developed flat spots. After continuing complaints the mechanical forces in Stockton did something to the brake system to speed up the release.

By the mid 70's WP's Alco switching days were over. No. 563 was sold in October, 1973, to the Central California Traction and renumbered No. 50. No. 564 was sold in December 1976 to the Stockton Terminal & Eastern. It remains on the ST&E roster today although it suffers from wreck damage to the cab.

No. 563 worked on the CCT until November 1976 when it was returned to WP in exchange for RS-1, TS 746. WP immediately sold the 563 to Foster Farms for switching duties at its Livingston feed storage facility. It served Foster Farms until 1985 when replaced by a SP S-6 Alco. Foster Farms intended to either use the 563 as a standby unit or ship it to one of their other locations. They sand blasted the body and applied a coat of red primer, thus it remained exposed to the elements.

In October, 1996 the unit was offered for sale to our Society. Our organization did not have sufficient funds for the purchase so John Ryczkowski and I agreed to purchase the unit and donate it to the FRRS. We purchased the unit and agreed to move it within 90 days. On March, 1998, the 563 was loaded on a flat car and moved to Portola.

There were a number of problems encountered in the move. The high cost of crane service, availability of a suitable flat car and obtaining a set

of jacks to raise the locomotive to place it on a flat car. Steve Habeck found a set of Whitting 35 ton jacks on the Amador Central. These were brought to Portola for repair and then taken to Livingston. A power generator was rented, brackets were constructed and the unit raised to flat car height. Once the unit was placed on the flat car and tied down with cables, the SP car inspector was called to ok the load. This was not to his liking. 3/4 inch steel rods would have to be welded to the locomotive and bolted to the car. When the load finally left Livingston it had 12 steel cables and 12 steel rods holding it down. If the car turned upside down the 563 would probably not have fallen off the car. Those doing the work at Livingston included Doug Morgan, Meg Evans, John Risse, Hank Stiles, Janice Peterson, Jeremy Stiles and Bob Crews.

No. 563 arrived Portola in late March, 1998, and unloaded using the Whitting jacks in early April. Here the unit remained in its rusty primer until 2006 when I found time to give her a paint job. The 563 had six different paint schemes over its life. First black and white as delivered followed by orange and silver, solid orange, Perlman green, CCT red and finally Foster Farms carmel, black and white. I chose to repaint the green with orange trim. Since the primer had allowed the body to rust and I did not want to sand blast the body again, I choose to apply a rust sealer paint, POR-15. This special paint will seal in the rust and not allow it to penetrate the final paint. The final coat was with an acrylic enamel. Total cost of the paint job was about \$1,000. I wish to thank my wife Barbara for helping with the taping and watching to be sure I didn't fall off the roof or ladder.

Foster Farms removed the UP style number boards when they worked on the unit. I had saved the number boards from the 561 that ST&E was scrapping. I took these to Jerry Todd, a local sheet metal man, for repair. He said they were so badly rusted that he built new ones. With the help of Alan Hirasawa the 563 had its number boards. Back. In August, 2007, John and Mary Ryczkowski placed the Western Pacific on the hoods and 563 on the cab. It sure looked nice.

The 563 still needs some mechanical work, which hopefully will happen next year.

*Info for this article came from WP Diesel Years by Joe Strapac, D Day on the Western Pacific by Virgil Staff and from Issue No. 90 of the Train Sheet.*



*WP 563 was only 4 months out of Alco's plant when it was captured switching in Winnemucca, NV on September 24, 1951. The 2 S4s were the last locomotives delivered in black.*

*- photo by Norman Holmes*



*Wearing bright CCT red, the former WP engine is a little over 2 years into its short career with the Central California Traction. Shown waiting at the Stockton shops on January 19, 1976, it will be traded back to the WP in November and then resold to Foster Farms.*

*- photo by Peter Arnold*



*Once again in WP colors, the 563 sits outside the museum's diesel shop shortly after its new lettering was applied.*

*- photo by Norman Holmes*

#### **Western Pacific Alco S-4 563**

built - May 1951

cost - \$102,468

builder # - 78777

weight - 231,000 lbs.

1000 hp

tractive effort - 57,500 lbs.

## WP MODELING REPORT

- Thom Anderson, WPRRHS Administrator

In N Scale, Athearn has listed 50-foot PS-1 boxcar in WP (stock #14143 and 14144) and Tidewater Southern (stock #14131 and 14132), in two different numbers. The WP cars are due in November, and the TWS cars may be at dealers now. A North American Car Co., insulated boxcar in two different numbers (stock #10670 and 10671) are due in mid-August.

In HO scale, Athearn has listed another round of passenger F3A and F3B units. A-B combinations, single A and single B units are available or coming later this year, in both sound and silent versions. One A-B set and one separate A unit are being offered with the large post-1955 lettering, which are at dealers now. Athearn has also released a passenger F7-B, numbered 804B. As with the F3 units, they are now available.

FRRS member Peter Arnold has been a prolific photographer since the early 1970s. Many of you who have attended the Winterail swap meet may

have purchased slides from him, and probably have seen his photos in a wide variety of Morning Sun books.

Peter is now offering his slides in CD format, and has released two WP discs, one covering cabooses that contains 145 images, and one that has a wide assortment of maintenance of way equipment, that contains 171 images. Most of the originals are Peter's own photos, and with a few exceptions are well lit and nicely composed. I'm told that the scanned image is large enough (approximately 400dpi) to make high-quality prints from, which is handy for keeping at the workbench if you're modeling something from the photos.

Peter says he plans to release more WP sets in the future.

If you are interested in purchasing a copy, contact the Museum gift shop, or Peter Arnold at P O Box 6087, Los Osos, CA 93412. Cost for purchase direct from Peter is \$20.00 each, plus \$4.00 shipping and \$1.50 California sales tax.

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## WHEN YOU MOVE...

Don't forget us! There are several ways to let the FRRS know when your address has changed. The easiest, if you have email access, is to email your name, membership number and new address (and please, include your old address for reference) to the Membership Chairman at Membership@wplives.org. You can also send us a letter to the museum address: P O Box 608,

Portola, CA, 96122.

If you are renewing your membership and making an address change at the same time, please be sure to note that this is an address change on your renewal notice.

By making sure your information is up to date, we can ensure that you will receive all materials from the FRRS. Thanks!

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## MEMBER APPRECIATION 2008

Mark your calendar now. On June 7, 2008, the FRRS will be holding its First Annual Member Appreciation Day. On this day, we will be celebrating our members with special events, capped off by our Annual Membership Dinner and Meeting in the evening.

For 2008, we hope to also have some special announcements about upcoming events and WP related items. Watch the Train Sheet, the WPLives.org website and the FRRS email list and discussion board for future information.

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## HOW TO HELP

Maintaining our historic equipment and facility is a task that is neither simple nor cheap. Whether the task is repairing 68 year old switcher 608, printing new brochures so the public can learn about us or laying new walkways to improve access to our vintage facility, the work and the bills never end. You can help by making a donation of time or funds to the FRRS. This will help us keep the WP alive for future generations and expand our programs of education and living preservation. Please consider the FRRS in your future giving.

## Feather River Rail Society - 2008 Calendar

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### January

- 1-31 Nominations for 2008 Election  
5 Board Meeting - 1 PM Portola

### February

- 2 Board Meeting - 1 PM Lathrop, CA

### March

- 1 Election Withdrawl Deadline  
8 Board Meeting - 1 PM Portola  
15 Winterail Stockton  
29-30 Track Work Session

### April

Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM

- 1 Museum Open to Public  
5 Board Meeting - 6 PM Portola  
5-6 Locomotive Maintenance Clinic  
Facilities Work Weekend  
10-12 Steam Department Work Session  
11-12 WPRRHS Convention Sacramento  
19-20 Zephyr Project Work Session  
26-May 4 Facilities Work Session

### May

Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM

- 3 Board Meeting - 6 PM Portola  
3-4 Crew Training/Rules Exam  
17-18 Zephyr Project Work Session  
24 Operating Season Opens  
RAL Engineers Meeting

### June.. Train Rides

Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM

- 7 Member Appreciation Day  
Board Meeting - 1 PM Portola  
Members Bar-B-Que - 5:30 PM  
Members Meeting - 7:30 PM  
8 Locomotive Maintenance Clinic  
21-22 Facilities Work Session

### July.. Train Rides

Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM

- 5 Board Meeting - 6 PM Portola  
5-6 Locomotive Maintenance Clinic  
Facilities Work Session  
TBD Dunsmuir RR Days Dunsmuir  
26-27 Zephyr Project Work Weekend  
30-Aug 2 Steam Work Session

### Aug.. Train Rides

Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM

- 9 Board Meeting - 6 PM Portola  
9-10 Locomotive Maintenance Clinic  
Facilities Work Weekend  
23-24 Portola Railroad Days

### September

Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM

- 6 Board Meeting - 6 PM Truckee  
6-7 Locomotive Maintenance Clinic  
20 Operating Season Ends  
27 Railfan Photographer Day

### October

Hours: 10 AM – 5 PM

- 4 Board Meeting - 6 PM Portola  
4-5 Locomotive Maintenance Clinic  
Facilities Work Session  
11-19 Facilities Work Week  
23-25 Steam Department Work Session

### November

- 1 Board Meeting - 1 PM Sacramento  
Museum Closes to Public  
29-30 Work Session

### December.. Santa Trains

- 6 Board Meeting - 1 PM Portola  
Santa Train - 5 PM  
13 Santa Train - 5 PM  
14 Clean-up and Facility Closedown

Deadline for Train Sheet Newsletter submissions is last day of February, April, June, August,  
October and December. Museum is closed on Easter holiday.



## February 2007 Board Meeting Motions and Actions Summary

### Motions Passed

1. Consent Motions - approved motions 07-02-02, 03, 04.

. Minutes - Minutes from the December 2006 and January 2007 General Meetings.

. Financial Reports - Profit/Loss and Balance Sheet through end January 2007.

#### **Motion 07-02-05**

##### 2007 Budget Approval

Approve budget as submitted by Treasurer Dan Brady. Aye - 9, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

2. Business Motions

#### **Motion 07-02-06**

##### Gold Hill Equipment Trade

Approval of trade of FRWX 15545 flat car for Clover Valley Paymaster's car. Aye - 9, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

#### **Motion 07-02-07**

##### Dunsmuir Railroad Days

Approve FRRS participation in 2007 Dunsmuir Railroad Days. Aye - 9, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

#### **Motion 07-02-08**

##### Renewal of Museum Manager Contract

Approval of new contract for the period 02/15/07 through 02/14/08 and offer of employment under the terms of same to John Walker. Aye - 6, Nay - 3, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

#### **Motion 07-02-09**

##### FRRS Membership Levels

Director Vicknair provided a verbal summary of a written report presented to the Board regarding proposed changes to membership structure and pricing.

Motion: Issue of membership levels and pricing tabled for reconsideration in six months. Aye - 6, Nay - 1, Abstain - 2. Motion carried.

#### **Motion 07-02-10**

##### Archives Storage

President McClure advised he had completed

research regarding a climate controlled storage facility in a non-flood plane zone. He is recommending a facility in Sparks, NV with a cost for a 10'x10' unit of \$127 per month. Motion: Approval to rent climate controlled storage unit in Reno for the contents of the FRRS / WPRM Archives to be paid from budgetary line item 52030 - Storage/Security. Aye - 9, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

### Actions and Notices

- Volunteer Accounting - Bruce Veilleux, IT Services Manager and Director McClure provided a verbal summary and answered questions with regard to the written project outline presented to the Board for consideration at this meeting.
- IRS Reporting Requirements - Director Monger provided copies IRS reporting requirements for donors for review. A summary chart was also provided which was prepared by Treasurer Brady summarizing both donor and recipient responsibilities are with regard to donations. It was brought to the attention of the Board and staff that representatives of the organization are not to function in the capacity of an appraiser for any contribution in which the organization benefits as it is a material conflict of interest.
- RailCamp at Portola - David Epling expressed an interest in contacting the National Railway Historical Society regarding implementing a RailCamp program at WPRM. The Board provided consensus direction to contact NRHS to gauge interest.
- 2006 Operations Report - Director Cochran provided a verbal summary of a written report provided to the Board for review. The Board expressed their continued support for Director Cochran as Superintendent of Operations for his guidance and leadership over the Operating Department.
- Lone Railfair - President McClure advised receipt of an e-mail regarding a request for the FRRS to participate in the Lone Railfair this year. Dates are May 12-13, 2007. Consensus direction was given to Directors Stiles and Vicknair to formulate a plan and a budget for consideration and adoption at the next meeting.
- California Association of Museums - Director Monger provided information regarding the California Association of Museums and conversations had with Western Railway Museum regarding same. Membership of professional organizations or groups falls under the purview of the Museum Manager and this

item was therefore directed to him for consideration.

- CMO Job Description - Copies of perceived job description for the position of CMO was provided by Director Stiles and President McClure. Consensus direction to Director Stiles and President McClure regarding defining the position and duties, and to Directors Cochran and McClure regarding standardizing format for same. The combined result will be presented to the Board for consideration and adoption at a future meeting.
- FRRS Minutes Format - As Director McClure has not yet been able to contact Corporate Counsel Alan Turner regarding additional detail behind the recommendation to change the minutes format, consensus direction was given to continue this item until the March meeting.
- SP 4404 Sale - Director Stiles advised receipt of an e-mail from Pat Rowe / Western Rail offering \$70,000 for SP 4404 in running condition. Consensus direction was provided for President McClure to be provided the information and begin negotiations on behalf of FRRS to determine if an acceptable agreement to sell the locomotive, with an asking price of \$75,000, can be reached.
- General Fundraiser Update - Director McClure advised that she didn't have an exact dollar amount, however, she believed the total raised was between \$14-15,000.
- Caboose Rental - David Epling presented a rental contract and liability release document for review. Documents / contract to be presented to Corporate Counsel Alan Turner for review prior to ratification.

### **President's Report**

- Small sampling of items recently donated available for review.
- GGRM Final report presentation.
- KCC #3 scrapping continues - will try to save cab as a display/simulator.
- Asbestos removed from WP 165 / SP 1215.
- Progress report regarding Silver Plate / IR trade.
- Should have a scrap gon ready to go out this spring.
- Review of unfinished projects and responsibility.
- Need for Diesel Shop roof, windows and east end door.
- Need to install/repair Silver Lodge Windows.
- Donation of wood refer parts from Matt Shuman.
- RPCA convention report.

- Announcement of donation of Boiler Car WP 592 by Doyle McCormick once he has secured a suitable replacement.

### **Museum Manager's Report**

- Museum Manager John Walker provided a written report regarding the status of the gift shop and museum.

### **Director's Reports**

- Director Habeck advised that there is a possibility that the Quincy Fire Department may be donating Engine 8123 to the FRRS.
- Director Holmes reported that the automotive repair shop has now advised that the Ambulance will require carburetor repair or a new carburetor to pass smog.
- Director Parker thanked John Walker for his Museum Manager report and asked that we encourage visitors to sign the guest log. He also asked that people take pictures of the goings on at the museum for use in publicity.
- Director Monger advised that he was unable to make it to the Interpretive Seminar he had previously indicated he was planning on attending.

### **Department Reports**

- **Publications** - Director Vicknair stated he had received confirmation that the most recent edition of The Train Sheet was arriving in member mailboxes over five weeks after being sent to the printer. Investigation is ongoing as to the reason for the delay.

### **Committee Reports**

- **Hospital** - President McClure reported purchase of an antique examination table to be used in an interpretive display once the hospital property has been restored.
- **Election** - Due to late publication of The Train Sheet, the Election committee will have to accept late arrivals of nominations for Director elections. Deadline will be extended by two weeks. There are currently five candidates: Kerry Cochran, Norm Holmes, Wayne Monger, Merrill Thurman and Ed Wagner. One additional teller will be added for the counting of the ballots.
- **Acquisition and Deaccession** - Due to a lack of response from Kent Stephens, he has been removed from the A&D Committee. Charlie Spikes and Merrill Thurman have been added due to an expression of interest.
- **WP Centennial** - The committee will be prepared to present a report for ratification at the March Board meeting.

**Closed Session**

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 5:30 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 6:55 p.m. Director McClure reported the following out of closed session:

"The Board heard a report regarding the ongoing legal issue, FRRS v. Kasten, ITAC. Consensus direction was given, no action was taken. The Board received a report regarding a Department Head's job performance. Consensus direction was given, no action was taken."

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## March 2007 Board Meeting Motions and Actions Summary

**Motions Passed**

1. Consent Motions - removed from agenda by motion 07-03-01.

. Minutes - Approval of the minutes from the February 2007 General Meeting.

. Financial Reports - Approval of the financial reports through January 2007.

## 2. Motions

**Motion 07-03-02**RAL Discount

Matt Shuman, FRRS Member and President of the Shasta Cascade Rail Preservation Society, requested that the FRRS extend a 10% discount on RALs to SCRPS members. In exchange, FRRS will receive space in SCRPS publication "The Wig Wag" regarding the discount and offering FRRS membership information. Recommendation made to see if SCRPS is willing to provide a membership list for the purpose of soliciting members to FRRS.

Motion: Accept proposal by SCRPS President, Matt Shuman, for a 10% RAL discount to be offered to SCRPS members in exchange for advertising in their member publication, effective immediately. Aye - 4, Nay - 3, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

**Motion 07-03-03**FRRS Minutes Format

Director McClure reported she has not received a response from Corporate Counsel Alan Turner and asked that this item be tabled until next meeting. Motion: Table item FRRS Minutes

Format until the April 2007 meeting. Aye - 7, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

**Motion 07-03-04**Ione Railfair

Approval to participate in Ione Railfair. Aye - 7, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0.

**Motion 07-03-05**WP Centennial Celebration

Director Vicknair presented the proposed 2009 WP Centennial Celebration Plan for review, acceptance and approval for public release to generate support.

Motion: Acceptance of 2009 WP Centennial Celebration Plan in concept as presented and public release of same. Aye - 7, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

**Actions and Notices**

- Volunteer Accounting - Bruce Veilleux, IT Manager, and Director McClure reported regarding research on volunteer accounting and overview of recommended hard / software for implementation of the volunteer accounting project. The expected cost is between \$3,500-4,500. Formal recommendations to be provided at the next meeting.
- Dunsmuir Railroad Days 2007 - President McClure advised he has received written confirmation of UP approval for FRRS participation in Dunsmuir Railroad Days 2007. As in years past, the DRR committee will cover our volunteer expenses including hotels, meals, gas. Event is scheduled for July 6-8, 2007.
- Sale of MILW 5057 - President McClure reported he had received a call from Steve Sangberg with the Milwaukee 261 group advising they would like obtain MILW 5057. They plan to restore it to operation and paint for use as a support and lead locomotive on excursions. Estimated value is \$20,000. The Board gave consensus direction to continue discussions regarding a possible sale.
- Sale of SP 4404 - President McClure advised he has been in contact with Pat Rowe / Western Rail. They continue to negotiate terms for a possible sale. President McClure advised he hoped to have a proposed agreement for Board review at the next meeting. The Board gave consensus direction to continue negotiations.

**President's Report**

- Winterail next weekend - March 10, 2007.

- Dunsmuir RR Days currently the only offcampus event scheduled in 2007.
- Donation requests have been made to the UP for equipment and other items.
- Silver Plate / IR Boxcab trade progressing.
- Still working on billboard advertising on US 395 out of Reno.
- Work to start on prepping CCT 24 for movement to WPRM.
- Semaphore donated by Doug Peterson will be taken down and ready for pickup shortly.

### Director's Reports

- Director Stiles reported that a volunteer crew had begun work on RAL locomotives the weekend prior to this meeting.
- Director Monger advised that May 2007 is the State of California's 8th Annual Museum Month. Will work with Museum Manager John Walker regarding membership in the California Association of Museums.

### Department Reports

- **IT Services** - Bruce Veilleux advised server racking has been installed in server room. He will work with Director Vicknair and member Eric Stephens regarding power and telephone service. He continues to work on additional webcam planning as well as the virtual library. He will try to get input from CSRM and their site designers as they have an excellent example of what we are looking to achieve with the project.
- **Funding** - Director McClure reported Winter Fundraiser has resulted in donations just over \$14,000 and more continue to trickle in.
- **MOW** - President McClure stated that he will need to purchase switch ties (expensive) and an air spiker. First track work weekend of the year is scheduled for March 24-25, weather permitting.

### Committee Reports

- **Election** - Deadline for withdrawal has now passed and there are still five candidates for three seats.

### Safety Report

- Director Cochran reminded everyone with the start of the season just around the corner, that we all must be diligent about potential liability issues anywhere on property.

### Closed Session

Meeting adjourned to closed session at 2:47

p.m. and reconvened to open session at 2:54 p.m. Director McClure reported the following out of closed session:

"The Board received a report regarding the ongoing legal issue, FRRS v. Kasten, ITAC. No action was taken. Information was also given regarding an ongoing personnel issue regarding Department Head Job Performance. Consensus Direction was given, no action was taken."

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## April 2007 Board Meeting Motions and Actions Summary

### Motions Passed

1. Consent Motions - approved motion 07-04-01.
  - . Minutes - Approval of the minutes from the February 2007 and March 2007 General Meetings.
  - . Financial Reports - Approval of the financial reports through March 2007.

### 2. Motions

#### Motion 07-04-02

##### FRRS Minute Format

Director McClure read an e-mail to the Board from Corporate Counsel regarding his recommendation of an Action Minutes format. Members of the Board spent time discussing the information presented as well as considering member concerns that have been expressed during the eight months the test format has been utilized.

Motion: Acceptance of a modified action minutes format that includes consensus direction. Aye - 7, Nay - 1, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

This change will go into permanent effect with the May 2007 Minutes.

#### Motion 07-04-03

##### MILW 5057 Sale

President McClure advised he had met with Steve Sandburg with the Milwaukee Road 261 Group at the museum, however, had no contact since.

Motion: Item Tabled until May Meeting. Aye - 8, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

**Motion 07-04-04, 05**Sale of SP 4404

President McClure reported he had communicated by e-mail with Pat Rowe / Western Rail, Inc. regarding their proposed purchase of SP 4404 and presented the Board with a proposed contract. Members of the Board expressed concern over same and provided direction to the President regarding inspections and clarifications of expectations.

Motion: Agreement to sell locomotive to Western Rail pending approval of contract by legal. Aye - 0, Nay - 8, Abstain - 0. Motion failed.

Motion: Agreement to place SP4404 on the open market for sale. Aye - 2, Nay - 6, Abstain - 0. Motion failed.

At this time, consensus direction to continue with discussion with Western Rail, Inc. regarding possible sale of the locomotive was provided to President McClure.

**Motion 07-04-06**Item of Urgency

Addition of Item of Urgency, specifically discussion and/or action on the proposed Volunteer Database. Aye - 8, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

**Motion 07-04-07**Volunteer Database

Acceptance of the provided report's second recommendation, specifically, authorization of the volunteer hour accounting database project with a budget of \$5,000 and implementation at a later date based on cash flow with funding from budgetary line item 67600 - IT Expenses. Aye - 8, Nay - 0, Abstain - 0. Motion carried.

**Actions and Notices**

- Silver Plate Loan - President McClure presented a letter from CSRM regarding the process and current status within same regarding the proposed loan of the Silver Plate. The Board provided consensus direction to pursue the issue.
- Lone Railfair - President McClure advised that he had been in contact with the principals of the Lone Railfair event and their expectations/ requests regarding operations. The Board provided consensus direction to continue with participation and sending the Model-T for demonstration operations only and the specific directive that there were to be no passengers

given rides with the exception of the gentleman helping to bring the vehicle back to operation. This individual is also to be given a one-year active membership in appreciation of his work.

- Rail Camp - NRHS expressed an interest in entertaining the possibility that WPRM become a site for their Rail Camp program. As Tom Carter and David Epling were the lead people on the inquiries, the Board provided consensus direction to speak with them further and return to a future meeting with a plan and budget.
- Model Railroad - Members David Epling and Tom Carter provided a written report to the Board prior to the meeting regarding their proposal for a modular N-scale layout that could be used on property as well as off-campus. Upon review of the report, the Board provided consensus direction to bring back a project budget and implementation timeline for further consideration.

**President's Report**

- Advised of letter from Vic Neves to WPRM and PLA/NCRy regarding potential trade.
- CCT 24 Caboose moving toward WPRM as early as first week of April.
- Possible acquisition of CCT 1790.
- WPRRHS Convention in Livermore April 13-14.
- Boxcar brought home from GGRM unloading complete.
- Eighteen full sized track pans, three pallets of interlocking firebrick for WP 165, and a number of industrial florescent lighting fixtures have been donated to WPRM.
- UPRR donating two operational crossing gate systems (will cover one crossing).
- Doyle McCormick has offered a long term loan of the Magnolia Grove to the WPRM.

**Director's Reports**

- **Brehm** - The FRRS has been the recipient of a large collection of HO scale model railroad equipment from a contact made at Winterail.
- **Monger** - The FRRS is now a member of CAM (California Association of Museums). CAM encourages members to hold "Meet & Greets" with local politicians during the month of May and recommended that we try to pull together an event.
- **Holmes** - Son has a dishwasher style parts washer available for \$3,000 if the organization is interested. Suggested that completion of the "Vista Boxcar" or park bench installation in the Sunburst Rose could address passenger seating concerns. Reported the possible donation of

angle iron and flat-stock if the organization is interested. Suggested someone be in contact with the city or county regarding the poor condition of street signs to the museum. Advised Art Lloyd interested in the 2009 Centennial Celebration. Created and posted a sign regarding party caboose rental.

- **McClure** - Advised the Board that Corporate Counsel Alan Turner has taken a new employment opportunity, but remains available to the Society in a limited capacity.
- **Cochran** - Reminded all that crew training is scheduled for May 5-6, 2007.

### Department Reports

- **MOW** - President McClure provided a track work weekend review and update regarding repairs.

### Committee Reports

- **Election** - Committee Chair David Epling advised all printed materials have been addressed and ballots will go out on time.
- **2009 Centennial** - Committee Chair Director Vicknair advised that the Committee will begin looking at possible event dates to request that private equipment owners include the events on their calendars.

### Public Comments

- Director McClure advised that she would like to see anyone who is currently using the BBS to encourage others to use it as well and boost the number of active participants.

### Museum Manager's Report

- Doors open for business, business is still slow.
- Facility survived the winter well and there were only about 10 broken windows in the Diesel Shop.
- CCC (California Conservation Corps) will be staying at the facility (sleeper and shower car use) this week to perform work in the local area. In exchange, they will provide three people each day to complete tasks around the museum.
- Feedback from the community is positive and Community Relations seem to be at a high.
- The local Portola RR Days Committee has accomplished a great deal of work and planning already. Anticipation is high for a huge event. Committee is seeking permission to have motorized rock climbers on our property. The Board advised only if the city or the event were to provide liability coverage with the FRRS as a named insured.

### Correspondence

- Andy Anderson spoke to the Board regarding the Society's participation in his Fire Chief's retirement dinner and expressed that there were not words to explain what it meant to him. He personally thanked the Board for making it happen.
- President McClure also relayed to the Board a letter addressed to Director Vicknair from a gentleman by the name of Hunter Stark, who expressed a great love of the CZ and interest in the continued success of The Zephyr Project.

### Closed Session

The Board adjourned to closed session at 4:25 p.m. and reconvened in open session at 5:46 p.m. Director McClure reported the following out of closed session:

"The Board received a report regarding an ongoing legal issue, FRRS v. Kasten, ITAC. No action was taken. The Board was also advised of the pending resignation of an officer of the corporation. No reportable action was taken. Lastly, the Board heard reports and discussed a Department Head's job performance and a personnel change was made. Additional direction was given to the President in this regard."

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*Any member in good standing may request a complete copy of the transcript of board meetings from the Society. There is a nominal charge for each copy which covers postage and administrative costs. Full minutes are posted on the FRRSlist hosted by Yahoo Groups.*

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### GIFT MEMBERSHIPS

Half price, non-Life Gift Memberships will be available until the end of 2007. Anyone who wants to give the gift of FRRS membership can download the membership application on the WPLives.org website or send a letter to the museum address as listed on the next page. Please be sure to include all the information on the person receiving the gift membership as well as your information, so that we can acknowledge your gift. Associate, Active, Family and Sustaining levels are eligible under this program.

## - FRRS Membership -

### **Yearly Dues**

Associate \$20.00  
Active \$40.00  
Family \$60.00  
Sustaining \$100.00

### **Single Life Membership**

Birth-17 years of age \$1200.00  
Age 18-39 \$900.00  
Age 40-61 \$600.00  
Age 62 and above \$300.00

### **Family Life Membership**

Birth-17 years of age \$1800.00  
Age 18-39 \$1350.00  
Age 40-61 \$900.00  
Age 62 and above \$450.00

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 one vote and include all members of ones immediate family.  
**Sustaining** memberships receive both The Train Sheet and Headlight, maximum of two persons with one vote each.  
**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, are for a maximum of two people and have two votes (one per member) for life.

Send all applications, renewals and address changes to:

Feather River Rail Society - Membership Dept. - P.O. Box 608 - Portola, CA 96122-0608

Address changes may also be sent to [membership@wplives.org](mailto:membership@wplives.org)



### **FROM THE ARCHIVES**

Instead of building its own facility, the WP was a tenant in the Rio Grande's Roper Yard in Salt Lake City, UT. Here, DRGW GP7 5101 switches the yard with WP caboose 451. The 5101 was scrapped in 1996, after being sold by the Rio Grande in 1972. The 451 survives today and is on display in Monroe, Louisiana.

*- photographer unknown,  
FRRS collection*

### **Mission Statement**

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"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**

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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. WP's influence in the lumber, mining and agriculture industry from Plumas County throughout California, Nevada and Utah.



Another visit with GP20 2001 in San Francisco, near midnight on December 31, 2006. - photo by Eugene John Vicknair

## **The Train Sheet**

Feather River Rail Society  
P.O. Box 608  
Portola, CA 96122-0608

Change Service Requested