

# PACIFIC NORTHWEST RAILROAD ARCHIVE

## NORTHWEST NEWS

PNRA publishes a progress report after each quarter to keep all *Friends of PNRA* current with what is happening at the Archive. This report covers work during 2014-Q1.

### GiveBIG Funding Opportunity

PNRA is honored to be accepted to participate in the 2014 GiveBIG day. Each year *The Seattle Foundation* conducts its GiveBIG, a One-Day event promoting substantial giving to registered non-profit organizations in King County, Washington.



This year's GiveBIG day is May 6, 2014, and PNRA has a page on *Seattle Foundation's* web site, <http://www.seattlefoundation.org/npos/Pages/PacificNorthwestRailroadArchive.aspx>. Contributions made on this page on May 6th, from midnight to midnight (Pacific Time) will be matched by funds gathered by *The Seattle Foundation* from the GiveBIG sponsors like, Seattle International Foundation, Bezos Family Foundation, Boeing, Microsoft, Medina Foundation, Starbucks and more.

During the 2013 GiveBIG day, \$12.6 million was raised in the 24 hours for 1,300 nonprofits, from 54,500 individual donors' gifts, the matching pool and other challenge grants.

**To support PNRA's mission and have a match applied to your contribution, donate on PNRA's *Seattle Foundation* web page during the 24-hours of May 6th.**

### Heritage Services

Bill Rowe became the Archive's librarian this quarter and is establishing the PNRA Reference Library of Pacific Northwest railroad-related books and significant railroad reference publications. Bill is starting with the many books received in Walt Ainsworth's collection and augmenting them with appropriate volumes from other donated collections.

The Library catalog will be maintained on the PNRArchive.org site to help users find resources they need. When the Library is done, books can be viewed at the Archive by appointment or scanned pages can be requested and emailed for a fee.

The NPRHA has employed a consultant to overhaul their web site's user interface in

SharePoint 2013. They expect to improve the site's ease of use and improve the search function.

### Friends of PNRA

There are two important ways to support the Archive and become a *Friend of PNRA*:

**Volunteer your time** to work on preserving the railroad material at one of our regularly scheduled work crews, or work from your home computer to catalog material.

**Contribute funds** each year to help pay the Archive's operating costs. If you can't volunteer your time, please make a financial contribution once each year to help PNRA preserve the region's railroad heritage.

Please call or email us for more details on how you can become a *Friend of PNRA*.

### Preservation Activities

The Wednesday crew meets weekly with from ten to fourteen volunteers each session.

The Saturday crew sessions range from five to eight volunteers on 2nd & 4th weeks each month.

SP&SRHS crews repacked their collections in bankers boxes and cataloging of the box contents is underway. The collection includes 360 boxes which fill Row 5 of the movable shelving with about 140 boxes stored temporarily on pallets on the eastside of the lower floor.

The Walt Ainsworth collection is contained in twelve two-door, six-foot high cabinets; 73 letter and legal file drawers; portions of the Evergreen and ICOS movable shelving; and 344 cubic feet of rolled and flat drawings.

Jack Christensen completed a first draft of the



Wade Stevenson NP photo negative collection catalog of the nearly 4,000 images scanned by the NPRHA East-End Archive in St. Paul, Minnesota.

The McKown drawing collection catalog is complete and scanning expected to start mid-year.

Scanning and cataloging of the NP

*Bill Rowe sorting library books in the ICOS shelves.*

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slides in the Werkema Collection are complete and ready to be posted on the NPRHA web site.

GN photo prints in the Ainsworth collection are being scanned before cataloging begins.

## Facility Improvements

Our Facility crew completed the West restroom and put it into service along with the heater on the west side of the main floor. These milestones allowed the separation wall to be framed and drywall applied to the Boeing side. It will be insulated before completing the drywall to reduce the sound between the two areas on the Main floor.

The crew also installed a new fire door in the wall to allow key access to either side without having to go outside the Archive.



*Separation wall framing with the Boeing layout beyond.*

Our special funding requests in the last report produced funds for the hot water heater for Main floor's eastside.

The electrical power circuits to the computer stations were extended the full length of the east and north walls of the Archive's space on the main floor. The circuits power three additional computer stations bringing the total to fourteen computers configured to run Windows7 and Office 2010 on the wireless network. Thank you to those who donated operating computers to the Archive.

## Community Outreach

The third PRR meeting was held at the Archive on March 15 with ten members in attendance.

PNRA hosted a Milwaukee Road Meet on March 29th attended by about 40 Milwaukee fans.

Gary Tarbox was selected to review *4Culture* Heritage Project proposals for 2014 funding.

Bob Kelly and Gary Tarbox will contact Senior Residential Communities in South King County to schedule railroad history presentations to their members to recruit new Archive volunteers.

## Operations

Bob Kelly and Clay Hanson attended a StEPs program training session which helps heritage organizations compare their processes and procedures to international standards. The session, led by *4Culture*, answered a number of questions about the program and showed that PNRA is on the right track to becoming an organized heritage organization.

All boxes on mobile shelving have been assigned permanent locations and added to a database as a first step to posting a searchable database on the PNRArchive.org web site.

Additional volunteers have been trained to operate the wide-format, photo print, negative and slide scanners, increasing the rate of scanning of photo images at the Archive.

## Financial Progress

With the improving economy, the Board is considering refinancing all of PNRA's debt into a single note secured by the Archive building and property.

PNRA continues to meet all its financial commitments since we purchased the facility in June 2010. Thanks to individual PNRA members who contribute to help fill the gap between our operating revenue and current expense levels.

PNRA's Capital Campaign is proceeding.

## Help Find Collections

Many collections of documents and/or photos of Pacific Northwest railroads still need a new home, but the owners and their families often do not know of PNRA and our mission. **If you are aware of such a collection that will need a new home, please contact us.** It is critical that we talk with these collectors or their families before the collections are discarded. We have a significant amount of Archive space where collections can be honored and preserved.

Gary Tarbox,  
PNRA Executive Director  
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