

# PACIFIC NORTHWEST RAILROAD ARCHIVE

## **NORTHWEST NEWS**

This quarterly progress report is published to summarize the activities at the Archive for the *Friends of PNRA*. This edition covers Quarter 1 of 2016.

### **GiveBIG for PNRA's Capital Campaign this Year from April 18 to May 3, 2016**

*Seattle Foundation's* annual **GiveBIG** campaign at PNRA is different this year in three ways:

- Each **GiveBIG** contribution to PNRA this year will reduce the mortgage debt on our Archive building.
- The first \$40,000 in contributions will be **matched Dollar for Dollar** by generous matching contributions from the GNRHS and NPRHA, in addition to the stretch match from *Seattle Foundation*.
- All contributions made from the **Donate Now** link on the [www.PNRArchive.org](http://www.PNRArchive.org) web site, between April 18th and May 3rd will count as payments to PNRA's mortgage principal reduction on May 3rd.

This is a great opportunity for you to help lower our mortgage principal and significantly reduce the Archive's monthly expenses. The main vehicle for the Capital Campaign is the **GiveBIG** event. We don't plan to ask you again to contribute to PNRA's Capital Campaign, so please take this opportunity to help us **NOW!!**

Over the last thirteen months our mortgage debt has been reduced by \$191,706 and now stands at \$283,294. With your help, we can reduce this debt significantly and allow the Archive to do more preservation with our operating revenue. Please help us by making a contribution now from the **Donate Now** link on the Home page of our web site below.



Nearly 50 Milwaukee Road fans attended their meet in March on PNRA's main floor work room.



### **Community Outreach**

PNRA met many new rail history fans, discussed the Archive's mission and recruited new volunteers at the SP&SRHS Swap Meet in Portland, Oregon, on January 23rd, the annual United Modelers Railroad show on February 27th and 28th in Monroe, Washington and at Winterail, March 19th in Corvallis, Oregon.

During the first quarter, PNRA continued to make our main floor space available to community heritage groups holding day-long membership meetings. This quarter's meetings included the:

- Nearly 50 people attending the Annual March Milwaukee Road Meet on March 5th for slides, movies, discussions and socializing. The Meet was sponsored by *Cascade Rail Foundation* and the Coast Division of the *Milwaukee Road Historical Association*.
- 17th annual mini-meet of *Santa Fe Railway* brought nearly 25 fans and modelers together at the Archive on March 19th.
- On April 2nd the *Pennsylvania Railroad Technical & Historical Society*, Pacific Northwest Chapter held their quarterly meeting with 20 members attending.

### **Preservation Activities**

The development of our Digital Archive Plan aimed at establishing a Trusted Digital Repository at PNRA is

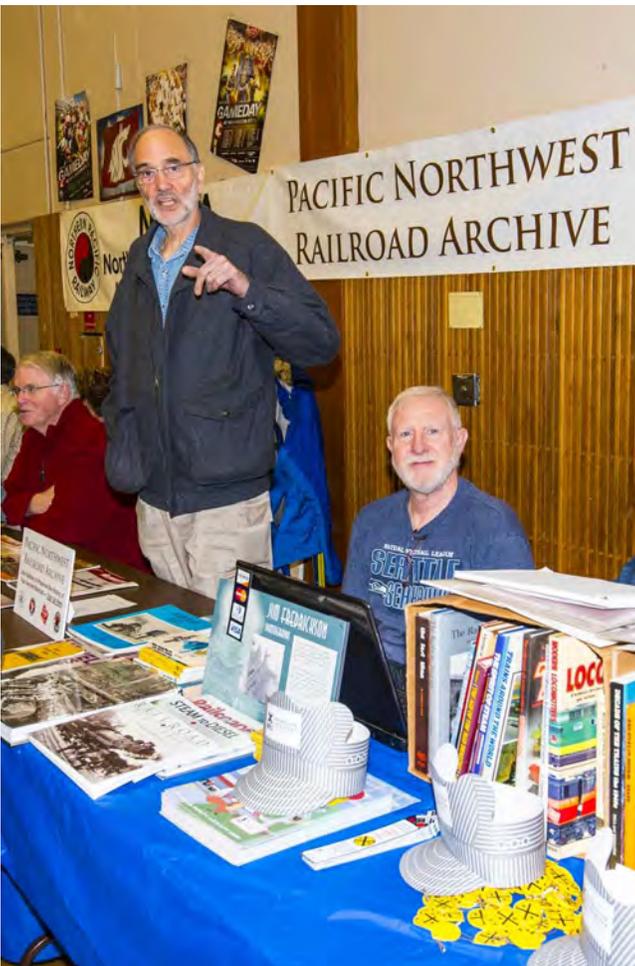
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nearly drafted and six candidate software systems have been reviewed to develop our software requirements. This project is funded by PNRA and a grant from **4Culture**, the cultural services agency for King County, Washington.

The Digital Archive Plan will be a roadmap to guide improved handling and preservation of PNRA's digital assets with a software system assuring that the digital collections will be preserved for future generations. A result should also be improved search functions of our web site data and extend its compatibility with the archival systems used throughout the world.

## PNRA Board

Craig Reese has asked to be replaced as PNRA's treasurer and as the NPRHA representative on our Board due to his new job as copy editor at the *Seattle Times* newspaper. Replacing Craig in both positions is Tim Repp who is an NPRHA member, retired Boeing engineer and was the editor of the NPRHA's *Main-streeter* magazine between 2004 and 2009. Tim expects to transition into the treasurer's job in mid-May.



*Bill Rowe, Gary Tarbox and John Tucker staff the PNRA table at the Boeing Swap Meet in Kent WA.*

## Web Site Update

As reported last quarter, our current internet service provider that has hosted the NPRHA and PNRA web site servers since 2003, is winding down its business. This requires our servers to be moved to a new data center. After competitive bidding, *Superb Internet Corporation's* datacenter in south Seattle was select to host our two servers. This server move will take place in early April and the web sites are expected to be fully operational 24-hour after the move when the new addresses stabilize on the internet.

Last quarter we started saving our off-site web site backup copies on "the cloud" using the *Amazon Web Services Glacier* application. In addition, hot backups are written each night on drives installed specifically for the backups of both servers on the web server.

Gregg Arndt is now in charge of posting the new web site content generated at PNRA. Over the last few years he has been scanning and cataloging the last negatives at PNRA from the Jim Fredrickson collection, and was formerly on the information technology staff of the State of Washington in Olympia.

## Help Preserve Collections

PNRA has received 256 collections from 174 donors since the Archive started in 2010, with new collections of Pacific Northwest railroads documents, maps or photos arriving each week. We need your help as there are still many people who have railroad collections that will need a new home in the future. Most of the owners or their families don't know of PNRA, our preservation mission where their collections will be honored and preserved. It is critical that we talk with these people or their families before the collections are discarded. **If you know of such a collection, please contact us.**

Gary Tarbox,  
PNRA Executive Director  
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