

PACIFIC NORTHWEST RAILROAD ARCHIVE

NORTHWEST NEWS

This progress report serves to inform the *Friends of PNRA* on the activities at the Archive during the second quarter of 2018.

Community Outreach

PNRA provided a James Turner photo of the Salmon Bay Bridge No. 4 for book commemorating Paul Dorpat's popular *Seattle Now and Then* columns. They have been published in the Sunday Seattle Times since 1982. The book is scheduled to come out in the fall of 2018.

PNRA and the Highline Heritage Society hosted the April 16th Board meeting of the *Washington Museum Association* in the Archive's Main work room. It was a great opportunity for the leaders of Washington's museums to learn about our mission, activities, facilities and collections. We received very positive comments from the meeting attendees during and after a tour of the Archive.

A \$3,000 grant was awarded to PNRA by 4Culture to fund the publication of a book on *Pacific Coast Railroad* (PCR) history. Author, Kurt Armbruster uses PNRA's extensive collection of PCR photos, maps, train sheets and operating reports to illustrate the book. Additional funds have been committed by the GNRHS for the purchase of 100 book copies, as the GN owned and operated the PCR from 1951 till the operation ceased in 1982. The other distribution of the book will be through our project partners, four King County historical societies where the PCR operated. The copies will be a fund raiser for the societies and a vehicle to promote railroad history in their areas. PNRA will provide speakers to those societies and other interested groups to introduce the history of the PCR to their public.

Events on the PNRA calendar include:

- Union Pacific & Milwaukee Road Convention Tours, July 19, 2018.
- PRRT&HS meetings at PNRA, July 21, & Oct. 20, 2018.
- SP&SRHS Convention, Sept. 9-11, 2018, in Chehalis WA.
- PNRA Convention Open House, Sept. 9-14, 2018.
- NPRHA Convention, Sept. 11-15, 2018 in Tumwater WA.
- GNRHS Convention, Sept. 15-19, 2018, in Bellingham WA.
- Milwaukee Road Fall Meet, Oct. 27, 2018, in Centralia WA
- BEMRRC Swap Meet, Nov. 10, 2018, at Kent WA Commons.
- PNRA-BEMRRC Holiday Open House, Nov. 23-25, 2018.

Twenty-five Pacific Coast Railroad photos have been provided to Bill Kombol for use in his column, *When Coal Was King* published in the *Voice of the Valley* newspaper from Maple Valley, Wash. The column tells stories of all aspects of coal mining in the Cedar River valley. In addition, Bill sent PNRA a set of published columns using PCR photos in our collection, as the columns provide extensive information that will enrich our photo cataloging.

Another Successful GiveBIG Day

The Seattle Foundation held its annual *GiveBIG* campaign this year on May 9th, although donations could be reserved



GN 1452 crossing the Salmon Bay Bridge No. 4 in Seattle.

James Turner photo, Walt Ainsworth Collection at PNRA

starting on April 26th and be credited as donating on May 9th. This event promotes community support for non-profit organizations serving Washington State's King County, and is the third largest non-profit fund raising event in the United States. This year, PNRA received \$7,872 for another successful GiveBIG campaign. Thanks to everyone who supports the Archive!!

Preservation Activities

Bill Petryk, leader of PNRA's Digital Archive Team, has worked directly with Rachael Woody, our Digital Archive Consultant to develop the international language needed to select data records from our collections using the format of the AtoM platform. In March we engaged Kerkhoff Technologies to install the AtoM platform on a server at the Archive. Bill, Rachael and the Team have loaded many PNRA's collection records to test AtoM's search function toward completion of our 4Culture Collection Care Grant's Phase 2.

Bill Zidel is cataloging large folders of NP Engineering Dept. drawings from the Del Jacobsen collection to allow the drawings to be added to the NPRHA.org website. Bill became a volunteer after participating in the first *GN and SP&S Day* at PNRA in March 2018.

PNRA received the Paul Newell collection of nearly 90 books and 100 slides in April.

Palmer Coking Coal Company of Black Diamond, Wash. donated to PNRA, five boxes of land deeds and records from the Pacific Coast Railroad. The collection was acquired by Palmer in the late 1950s with the purchase of assets of Pacific Coast Coal Company which received them from the railroad. These records concern land returned to adjacent landowners when the PCR's Taylor and Newcastle branches were abandoned.

The GNRHS East-End Archive provided extra copies of the *Railway & Locomotive History Bulletin* to help fill voids in PNRA's collection.

A Canadian crew sorted the Del Jacobson blueprint collection on June 2 and 3 with an eye to identify and scan prints from

PACIFIC NORTHWEST RAILROAD ARCHIVE

sites in Canada.

John Lubetkin donated to PNRA his collection of 115 railroad stock certificates dated from 1859 to 1969.

Become a *Friend of PNRA*

Our members, *Friends of PNRA* support the Archive and our mission to preserve the history of our region's railroads and make it available on our internet web sites. Our members live throughout the United States, as-well-as in the Puget Sound area. There are two ways you can become a *Friend of PNRA* by:

- **Joining a work crew** at one of regularly scheduled weekly sessions on Tuesdays, Wednesdays, Thursdays evenings or Saturdays. Email us to get started working on a collection that interests you at a time you are available.
- **Contributing funds** each year to help cover PNRA's operating costs. You can join the hundreds of contributors that regularly support PNRA online at www.PNRArchive.org, or mail a check to the address below and become a *Friend of PNRA*!!

Facilities

PNRA's Box Lift system between the Archive's main and lower floors went into service on April 12, 2018, with the completion of the State inspection of *Olympic Home Modification's* mechanical system installation.

The Archive's roof was inspected by the contractor, RoofCorp in mid-April and found in good shape with recommendations to renew some caulking.

Work is underway on PNRA's 2017-2019 *Heritage Capital Project Grant* funded by the Washington State Legislature to complete the following projects:

- Replacement of all single-pane windows on the Main and Upper floors completed by our contractor on 6/9/2018.
- Our new climate control system on all three floors with work scheduled to start on August 1st.



A Thermopane hopper window allows fresh air flow by the new replacement windows on the Archive's Main floor.



Cosmo Difrancesco removes a bankers box from our new box lift on the Main floor.

- Replacement of the rollup door in Receiving with steal doors will be done in August with all material now on site.
- Adding porches on the Archive's north and south sides of the building after the above tasks are done.
- Adding metal treads to our stairs to improve the safety will be done after the porches are complete.

Administration

Bill Kajdzik has taken over the preparation of orders for the Fulfillment Services provided to the online Stores of the NPRHA and GNRHS. Also, PNRA shipped on flash drives, the first three sets of digital images from the Ainsworth and Fredrickson collections ordered online in April.

We received a \$2,569 4Culture Heritage Equipment Grant award in June to fund the purchase of three Epson negative scanners. These units will increase our scanning volume of the over 100,000 photo negatives and slides in our collection. The operating controls of these scanners are compatible with our existing

Epson flat-bed scanners.

A new higher-speed, wireless printer was installed in the Archive's Main work room which has improved the printer connection at all the workstations.

We have introduced a new ordering process for Archive supplies using our new Authorization For Expenditure (AFE) form.

PNRA's IRS Nonprofit Information Form 990 was filed on April 20, 2018.

On May 15 an application was submitted for the 2019-2021 *Heritage Capital Projects Grant Program*. The \$42,262 grant request would partially fund the purchase of the last three mobile shelving carriages on the lower floor. Two addition grants will be applied for to fund the balance needed to complete the \$55,262 purchase.

Help Preserve Collections

-The Archive continues to receive collections at a rate of five to eight each month with the total of 452 collections received to date. An important part of PNRA's mission is to gather the many collections of railroad documents, maps and photos from the Pacific Northwest region into a facility where those collections will be preserved and made available to the general public over the internet. We know many collections need a new home now or in the future. However, many of the owners or their families don't know of PNRA and our preservation mission. It is critical that we talk with these people before the collections are discarded. **If you know of such a collection, please contact us.**

Gary Tarbox,
PNRA Executive Director
2018-Quarter 2 *Northwest News*



CULTURE
KING COUNTY LOGGING TAX