

MOW WEEKLY UPDATE!

4/19/2009

Hello MOW Folk,

Get comfy in your chairs, grab that extra cup of coffee, relax, and enjoy this week's edition of your MOW WEEKLY UPDATE. We say what others will not but in a nice way!

WEEK IN REVIEW:

Tuesday: Tuesday we were cursing around in the shops all evening. Mike and Mike were both working on the green machine to remove one of the main lifting cylinders. Pat and Gene repaired the horn on the loader, now we can honk at all the



Sandy Cleaning up the lift cylinder from the Green Machine

people in Old Sacramento as we cruise the town. Jim removed a second cylinder from the green machine to be repaired. A few other things were happening but I did not see them or remember so I will leave it to your imagination what other dastardly deeds we were up to on Tuesday nights in the shops.

Thursday: More shop time this evening. Bert continued on a project to build a roof for one of the roofless motor cars. A little protection from the elements for our folks. Richard was taking out his frustrations on the scarifier trying to remove the last few digging teeth. Let's just say they do not want to come off easily and a few have yet to surrender to leverage and brute force.

Saturday: We had a great crew of about 11 people on this day in history. We needed to finish as much of the track raise at M.P. 2.0 as possible before the scheduled start of the operating season next weekend. One could make many comments on the possibility of actually getting the docks project track finished on time, but silence is the better part of virtue. Well we all got busy working on the raise, jacking track, spotting boards, and tamping ties. At the end of the day we and finished raising the track from M.P. 2.0 to 2.2 about 4 inches, done in two, two inch raises. The track is not perfect but it should be better than before.

GOOD JOB! Everyone that participated in this project. We had many diversions but we were able to do a short amount. Later in the afternoon, because we were so fast, we were



Saturday Track Raise Crew



Track Raise in progress

able to put our tie curb back into position in old town. This was displaced by dumpsters that slowly encroached on our property. We added extra support via stakes to keep the ties in place.

WEEK AHEAD:

Tuesday: We will be meeting at the shops at 3:00 p.m. for those who can not wait to get to volunteer and 5:00 p.m. for those who would like to be there earlier but can't get away from work, darn it. We have a few things we need to do, most of them are in the shop but we also need to spread some ballast along the track that was just raised as all the ballast that was there is now gone, under the ties.



Pounding stakes to secure tie curb in Old Sac.

Thursday: Again let's meet at the shops but this time we start at 5:00 p.m. As always more work in the shops but on special order we may need to do some tamping of the ballast that was spread on Tuesday if we spread on Tuesday.



Pat and Mike discussing options for repairing the Green Machine

Saturday: Meet at the shops at 8:00 a.m. for fun in the sun all day. We have a number of projects than need attention. First, we need to service the switches on our line so we will be doing that. I am sure the operating crew will be happy. Second, there are a number of minor defects that were pointed out by the PUC inspection. We will repair those along the line as we service switches. A good day of critical thinking, troubleshooting, and loads of grease.

Finally a little common sense from a successful college football coach:

"You never know how a horse will pull until you hook him up to a heavy load."

Paul "Bear" Bryant

See you out on the line,

John, Sandy, and Chris