

MOW WEEKLY UPDATE!

6/8/2009

Hello fellow MOW folks. This is your current installment of the MOW Weekly Update. It's news and it's for you, so sit back and enjoy the fun and exciting adventures of your MOW crew!

WEEK IN REVIEW:

Tuesday: We started off the week with our normal shop time, and a little time out trimming trees on the setzer spur. Pat and Gene were working on the green forklift which needed both work on a four wheel drive valve but also on a steering line which decided to start



Pat and Gene in the MOW lounge on Tuesday.



Mike cutting out dead wood along setzer spur.

leaking part way through the evening. Meanwhile, Mike Taylor, Mike Harris, Richard and John all ventured off to the setzer spur. We had been receiving complaints from some engine crew about pesky trees touching the equipment moving on that line. Armed with chainsaws and a wood chipper we attacked those bad trees with extreme prejudice as long as we had light before calling it a day.

Thursday: We continued our weekday work in the shops. Mike worked on our older green forklift removing more of the steering components which have worn out leading to the operator having to herd the vehicle rather than just drive it. This should fix that problem. Richard worked on clearing out much of the water that had gathered in the shops following our June showers earlier in the week. Bert continued work on fitting a roof on one of our roofless motorcars, and

Sandy returned from a trip to Jamestown.

Saturday: It was a wonderful day to be out on MOW, the sun was shining the temperature was cool, bird chirping, and hammers ringing. On this day we had a small crew of only four guys, so taking it easy we focused on two projects. First, we went to old town to evaluate some complaints about hard switched in the yard. After careful evaluation we found no problems with the switches other than we did identify several bad ties for a future



Mike working on the Old Green forklift.

project. Then we moved down the line to Clunie crossover to change the mainline switch to a ground throw switch as was suggested by the PUC inspector.



Richard and Mike on the man lift trimming trees.

In the middle of the day we took a break and went down to Miller park to enjoy the signals annual BBQ. It was a very nice event with good food, good company, and good music provide by Signals. A word to the wise those boys know how to throw a BBQ!

After the BBQ we returned to the switch change and after replacing a tie, removing the current switch stand, and positioning the new ground throw we discovered that the new switch stand does not have the right accessories to work with the current switch. So it was back to the shop for about two hours of a switch hunt before we found the right ground throw switch stand at which point it was too late in the day to continue and thus ends the week.

WEEK AHEAD:

Tuesday: We will be meeting at the shops for fun and excitement for all ages. We still have several machines that need TLC, the tamper needs to be serviced, the old green machine needs some work, and we will have to go out on the line Tuesday night to replace the switch stand that was not replaced on Saturday. Again we meet at the shops, 3:00 p.m. for those who are currently spending my Social Security investment, and 5:00 p.m. for people like me who are still contributing to our Social Security System.

Thursday: More quality shop time for those brave enough to attend Thursday night work night. We meet at the shops at 5:00 p.m.

Saturday: We will meet at the shops at 8:00 a.m. for our Saturday work crew.

We have several projects that need to be accomplished. We are getting to a point where we need to aggressively change out ties on the line. We may begin doing this. Or we may do some further work in the Shops yard while we have time to get that track into a little better condition. All of that is questionable and debatable, but rest assured it will be fun, and exciting for all involved.



Chris and Harry using the backhoe to remove the switch stand at Clunie on Saturday.

See you out on the line,

John, Sandy, and Chris