

Friends of Auburn Heights Work sessions of June 3, 5, 10, and 12, 2008

Twenty-Four different people participated in the four work sessions and on several other days. In addition Bill Schwoebel and Tom Marshall traveled to Ocean City, New Jersey to help Norman Schaut with the firing up of his Stanley Model 61.

Work on the Stanleys during the past two weeks focused on preparing the Models 87, 76, and 607 for the East Coast Invitational Steam Tour in Vermont which begins June 15. Bill Schwoebel and Tom Marshall completed repairs to the Model 87's water pump. The plunger on the front pump, which had a stubborn leak, was replaced. Steve Bryce, Bill, Butch Cannard, Tom, Art Wallace, and Emil Christofano replaced the leaking throttle on the Model 76, and corrected a leak between the 3-tube indicator and the low water automatic, and Butch and Kelly Williams repacked several valves, adjusted the mechanical brakes, and lubed the steering on the Model 607. We offer special thanks to Art Wallace who came in on Friday after the repairs were complete to clean the Model 87 and 76 and polish the brass. All three cars were successfully fired up and tested prior to loading in the trailers for the trip to Vermont.

Several repair jobs were also completed on the workhorse Mountain Wagon. Jerry Lucas, Dave Lumley, and Art Wallace performed the Qwik-Poly treatment to the hub and spokes on the right rear wheel. Butch Cannard repacked the piston rods on the engine.

Walter Higgins and Art Sybell removed the service and parking brake pedal mechanism from the Rauch & Lang electric car to clean and lubricate the parts.

Chuck Erikson has found a collection of Stanley wheel bolts in the museum attic. He is in the process of cleaning the bolts, chasing the threads, and creating an inventory by size in the shop.

Anne Cleary and Steve Jensen spent time on both the locomotives and the tracks. No. 402 was cleaned up after being used for our charter event on May 31. They also inspected the tracks and replaced four ties. Jim Personti and Jeff Fallows removed, repaired, and reinstalled a portion of the valve gear, which had failed on the 402 during the event.

An item of general interest from the events committee meeting on June 3 is that, beginning with our first 2008 Steamin' Sunday on June 29th, our volunteers will be asked to adhere to a new dress code. White shirts, red FAHP hats, dark or khaki pants, shoes with no open toes, suspenders if they can find them, and bowties.

Anne Cleary is looking for qualified drivers for the Hockessin Fourth of July Parade. Please contact Anne soon if you are interested and also let Bill Schwoebel know which car you request.