

# Happenings

By Tom Twigge-Molecey



Painting 2424.

## TTC 2424

The body work was completed and the lower carbody sanded and painted by the Ottawa 696 Group. The front truck received a lot of mechanical work, including removal and reinstallation of all brake levers and pins, and replacement of all hardware. New brake shoes were installed, and the brakes were adjusted. The #3 door engine was also serviced, and new packing cups installed. Wood refinishing and seat repairs continued. The car is due to be lettered shortly, and will return to service in June.

## TTC 2894

The small Witt underwent a number of minor repairs and adjustments during its annual inspection including replacement of some brake shoes, and disassembly and reassembly of the front brake rigging.



Brian MacDonald working on 416's roof.

## TTC W-28

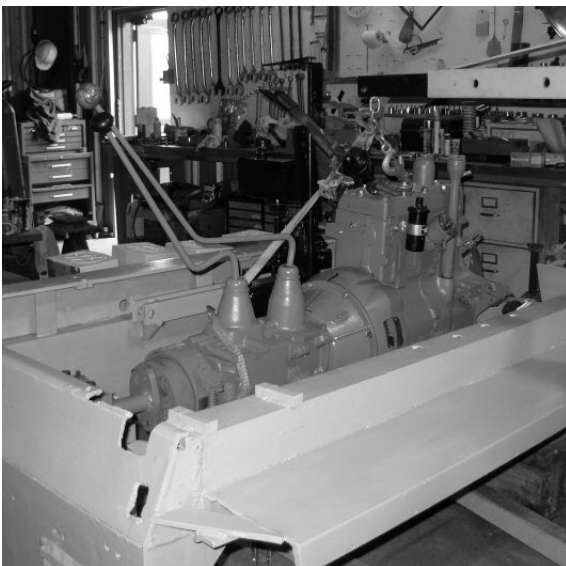
The rail grinder underwent its annual inspection. Among other repairs, a worn brake head, #2 axle, closed side was replaced. The grinder is back in regular service.

## OR 45

The line car had its governor rebuilt and reset, motorman's seat varnished, and the controller received several new fingers, and repairs to segments. The car was used for overhead repairs and adjustments throughout the spring.

## TTC 416

Window and roof work continues. The seats were all removed from the south side, and the seat brackets and wood paneling below the window sills are being replaced. The seat frames are in the shop being overhauled.



Trackmobile engine reassembled & installed.

## CP TM2

The frame rebuild is complete, and the regauged frame has been welded back together. The drive train was reassembled and reinstalled. The engine was reassembled, mated to the transmission and reinstalled in the frame. The hydraulic pump and drive were overhauled and reinstalled, and the other auxiliary components are being prepped for reinstallation, including the alternator, water pump, and air compressor.

## CP166031 & 166081

The archives cars are fully up and running now. The HVAC systems were installed during late March, and the balance of the lights and ceiling tiles were installed. The long process of sorting and cataloging of drawings and photographs is underway under the able supervision of David Hardisty.

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## TTC 4618

The renovations are substantially complete and the car was moved into position at the east end on April 29. The East End Café went into service May 26.

## CP80903 & CP360724

The axles were regauged by National Steel Car and returned to the museum in April. Work is ongoing to regauge the brake beams and reassemble the trucks.

## Gift Shop Renovations

A remarkable transformation has been made with the snack counter rebuild, which was completed by opening day. Ian Smith and Mark Richardson are to be commended for their efforts.

Prior to opening, a significant effort was expended on grounds cleanup and repair work. Eight new pull-offs were installed on the mainline overhead, and the wire was raised at the entrance to Yard 1. The mainline was inspected, and a number of minor repairs were made to the track. The property looked better on opening day than it has for years this early in the season. The gardens were all cleaned up and replanted, and the flora department is looking forward to a good year.

The annual "Blitz Week" took place from May 11-20. We were fortunate to have Paul and Maureen Sweeney up from Boston for the week. In addition, the Ottawa 696 contingent was down from May 11-13. A number of projects were undertaken including:

- tie replacement on tangent leading to west loop;
- modifications and welded tab on new Small Witt brake shoes;
- three deteriorated M-36 brake valves overhauled for stock;
- one S-6 governor rebuilt for stock;
- work begun on shop clean out and moving surplus parts to barn 3;
- and extensive earth moving and grounds improvements.

The group was instrumental in prepping and painting 2424 and we are indebted to Rheume Laplante for his body work expertise. A bobcat was also rented for the week, and numerous grounds projects were undertaken including the creation of a new garden at the entrance to Barn 3.

The 2007 season is off to a tremendous start, and the momentum we have enjoyed all winter shows no sign of letting up. Everyone should be very proud of their efforts.



Mark Richardson & Tom Twigge-Molecey pose in the new East End Café.



Members of the Ottawa 696 group cleaning W-28.



John Johnson with the new lawn mower.