

THE WHITE PINE ROUTE QUARTERLY

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The Journal of the Washington, Idaho & Montana Ry. History Preservation Group,

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Company's Coming!

The Milwaukee Road Historical Association Visits the WI&M Ry.

On the last Friday in June,

four monster tour busses descended on the unsuspecting citizens of Potlatch, ID and deposited their load of hard-core Milwaukee Road enthusiasts on the platform of the old railroad depot. Fortunately, a smaller, but equally hard-core group of WI&M Ry. fans were on hand to greet this gaggle of guests and show them around!

This occasion, of course, was the Milwaukee Road Historical Association's annual convention, held in nearby Moscow, ID this year.

When it was first announced, many MRHA members were surprised to learn the convention would be held in a town never served directly by the Milwaukee Road. However, the entire convention had been planned, with heavy influence from several HPG members, to introduce Milwaukee Road fans from across the country to the Washington, Idaho & Montana Railway, and to help them understand the close connection between the two railroads' histories.

Based at Moscow's University Inn, the convention opened on Thursday, June 28th with attendees checking in and getting reacquainted with each other. A room at the hotel was set up for displays and vendor



In addition to the new platform on its east and north sides, the Potlatch Depot received one more important addition before the MRHA tour group arrived. Notice the "new" station sign on the end of the north wall. This is actually the original Potlatch station sign that has been hanging on the exterior wall of the former Harvard depot in the Scenic 6 Park, and which was recently conveyed to the HPG by the City of Potlatch.

T Hillebrant photo

sales. Several HPG members had reserved a block of tables together where they set out a healthy offering of WI&M information and HPG merchandise. The attendees all congregated for dinner at 5 pm, and after a fine meal, we enjoyed listening to three speakers, beginning with Keith Peterson.

Keith is a former president of the Latah County Historical Society, and currently serves as Idaho State

The non-profit WI&M Ry. History Preservation Group, Inc has been organized for railroad historians, enthusiasts, and modelers interested in gathering and sharing information on the Washington, Idaho & Montana Railway, from its origins in 1905 through its operations of today.