

October 4, 2011

Hello Friends of 92813 !

Today started the official renovation of our little caboos here in Ridgely, Md. Promptly at 8 a.m. a dumpster was delivered by our friends at Mid Shore Regional Landfill. They donated this dumpster for as long as we need it...and we thank them very much !

After the dumpster was dropped off, Rick tore out insulation, a hot water heater, a bathroom sink and cabinet, paneling in the bathroom and cabinets above the bunk area. We swept up after that and noticed we had been busy for almost 4 hours!! My time there was trying to stay out of Rick's way and throwing things in the dumpster...OK, yes and telling him how to do the work....! Doesn't take long when you are having fun ?!!

There is a desk in the caboos with mail slots above it...used to deliver company mail and during WWII, was used to deliver mail for the post office. The letter box was FIRMLY attached to the wall and we were afraid of damaging it so, decided to find a volunteer who is a carpenter the next day. We locked the caboos door and headed home to make some phone calls.

October 5, 2011

Another beautiful sunny day here in Ridgely, Md. and the caboos awaits! We located our neighbor who is a carpenter, he came over and took the mail box off the wall with no problem at all...it does help when you have the right tools!! He also helped take out the air conditioner in the cupola and assisted in enclosing the window once the air conditioner was removed...we were glad to be neighbors at that point !

We only spent a couple hours at the caboos today and will return on Friday to board up some more windows.

October 7th & 9th, 2011

More paneling off the walls, light bracket cut off the wall with the help of one of our town Commissioners...he has the right tools also. I am thinking Rick will get some "right" tools for Christmas this year !

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October 10, 2011

Rick got the last of the paneling down and pulled up carpet under the seats. Floor is now all uncovered...lot of damage near the bunk area from water leaking in. A few boards will have to be replaced there. I just keep sweeping

We will need to cover windows soon as winter is just around the corner.

October 20, 2011

Well, bright and early this blustery day, our sandblaster and a crew of 4 arrived at the caboose.

After encapsulating the caboose, the sandblasting was done and 2 coats of red primer painted on it.

About 5 hours later, the little caboose was gleaming "red" ! It looked new except for the rust at the very bottom.....that will be done at a later time. Our goal was to have the worst side scraped and a coat of primer put on it before winter set in.

Many residents are now taking notice of the work being done and are curious what the next steps will be.

Dr. Peter was informed of our "red" caboose and came over about a week later to see it along with a friend of his who was a conductor for Amtrack for 20 years and had just retired. They both poured over the caboose offering suggestions and telling stories about the railroad.

Our next step is to frame the windows and paint them before weather gets too bad.

Week of October 24th 2011

One of our neighbors, George Diaz is working on the windows...he removed the cupola windows and took them to his shop for repair. There was original glass from those windows in the cabin of the train so, he installed it in the new frame he made. Things are certainly progressing ! Next, we need to cover the roof of the caboose to keep water out. Tarps and bungee cords will hopefully do the trick...just hope I don't have to get on the roof....I need to be on the ground