

President's Report
12:19 AM 10/21/19

September 28th switching was done with a full crew. 1503 was pulled out of the shop and the Pumpkin Patch Express train lined up. WP 512 was brought around to the west side of the shop to be inspected. Loren Ross was in charge of the day's switching and it was completed in a timely and safe manner. Good job everyone.

Dwain has been working on the wiring for the baggage car and *Silver Plate* in the shop for our Santa Train weekends in December. The *Sweetwood* is already being powered by Dwain's work.

The last Wednesday of September Patty Clawson and I attended the Portola City council meeting and asked for help with advertising and the purchasing of pumpkins. We got help for the advertising in the local paper. We were asked to come back October 9th and report on our search for pumpkins and possible donations. Patty and I did attend the second Portola City council meeting and we will not be getting any help with the pumpkins. With that we thanked them for the help in advertising and were told that maybe next year they will be able to help.

Work continues on the Pumpkin Patch Express and the pumpkin patch. Ethan has been busy in the wood shop working on items to use in the pumpkin patch.

Work has started on the wooden SN 1462 caboose, scraping paint chips and re-caulking the side has been the task. Plan is to get the side painted in a brown primer before the time we start running the Pumpkin Patch Express. It is a late start but hopefully it will look better than it did when we switched it into the train.

Some last minute switching has been identified to finish getting ready for our operations in October. That includes moving the passenger car for the haunted car. David Elems installed the drawbar on the rotary on Friday and it will be placed over the pit for inspection. Now is the time to do that before the baggage car and *Silver Plate* are put in the shop for Santa's visit in December. WP 512 will then go over the pit for inspection, one more step closer to getting the old girl running again. 1503 will get turned also for the Pumpkin Patch Express.

This year we hope to have the rotary staged and ready to run if we get snow for an early run rather than in March like we did this year (2019). That turned out to be a popular event and many comments were passed along to me that people were hoping we do it again in 2020.

The '*Train Sheet*' arrived and looks great. Thanks again Paul for your hard work.

Lastly, we are still in need of volunteers for the Pumpkin Patch Express event in the pumpkin patch and around the museum. Also if you'd like to help in the purchase of pumpkins we would greatly appreciate that.

Greg Elems
President WPRM