

**President's Pin**

- Greg Elems

Howdy, I will start this message with a quick explanation of my column title. As a railroader, we used the word "pin" when we worked on the ground as switchmen. What we were asking for, with the word "pin", was an easy move with the engine to uncouple cars or engine from a car. When we couldn't uncouple, the reason was the slack was stretched tight and the cut lever couldn't do its job. We had a hand signal for that, fist clinched and the thumb up like you were hitch hiking. Or if we couldn't use hand signals we asked for a pin on the radio. So my *President's Pin* is a play on words, using a railroad term "pin" rather than "pen."



On to the column. We had a reasonable Santa Train event this December. The weather didn't help, but we did very well the last Saturday. WP 1503 looked great with Steve Habeck's decorations.

Now we have the rotary snowplow and the slug getting the rest of the inspections and staged for use, if we get some good snow to plow in early 2020. Should it get the call, we will be offering cab rides in the rotary as well as the pusher engine. If that interests you, keep your eye on the website or let us know.

Keep your eyes on the signals and we'll see you this spring, if not sooner with a rotary call to action.

Greg Elems  
FRRS President



*Santa Trains 2019*

- photo above by Greg Elems  
- photo below left by Michael Clawson

**Upcoming Events...**

- April 2 - Museum opens to public: Thursday - Sunday 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- April 16-18 Western Pacific Historic Convention - Oroville, CA
- May 4 - Museum Open Daily, 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- May 9 - Crew Training/Rules Exam 10 a.m.
- May 16 - Volunteer Breakfast in the Silver Plate - 9 a.m.
- May 16-17 - Facilities Work Party 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- May 23 - Operating Season Opens,
- May 23 - Crew Training/Rules Exam 10 a.m.
- June 6 - Members Dinner - 5:30 p.m. / Annual Membership Meeting - 7:00 p.m. / Election Results
- June 20 - WP 1503 Dedication Celebration
- August 1 - 2 Western Pacific History Event