

## Presidents Report

Since the last meeting we've had a turbulent month at the museum. The weather pattern has definitely turned to winter which has made the preparation for Santa Trains less than optimal. Regardless of storms, Thanksgiving Holiday we did manage to pull off Santa Trains on December 3rd and Friday December 9th. Our longtime partner, David Rudolf, in the celebration had retired from his role as Santa in 2020. Here is where I need to Thank Roger Stabler for stepping into the role and saving our celebration. THANK YOU Roger! Steve was able to finish the gate decorations this week so all in all we have a pretty good look for the event after 2 years off. Also we had a new member Armando Epifani come up from the SF Bay Area and add some of his decorations and help with grounds decorating which included adding lights to WP 608. Really adds to the festive feeling, Thank you Armando. Ron Berriesford donated some more Christmas decorations to his generous Halloween decorations, Thank you Ron.

The storm from last weekend taxed the City of Portola's sewer system. It was totally plugged and backing up out of a manhole cover down by the UP yard office. Q & D from Reno was called out to fix the problem. So the city plowed snow around the museum trying to find the sewer covers. So with the help of David Elems and Duane we moved more snow to clean up after the city's work at making access for Q & D. Once the snow melts and the museum dries up a bit, Q&D will be back to finish the job and clear the sewer, including from the access near the water riser on 3 rail.

Next year is starting to look like a good year for events to keep our members busy and the public interested. I would like to start now and ask for help with the events and site prep. Our projects include repainting 705, finishing SN cabooses 1642 and once parts arrive getting SP 2873 back into service. Our purchase of ties means we'll be doing some track work and we definitely will need help there.

I will close with a Merry Christmas and Happy Holiday's wish to the board and museum family at large.

Greg Elems