

THE MANIFEST December 2017



Greetings All:

Wow, another year gone. I trust and hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. I am looking forward to 2018, a new year, new beginnings for some, and another wonderful year at the railroad park.

This month I continue with the story of the motor car transformation, thanks to Ken Hill and Jim Van Delden. The following are some pictures and commentary by Jim regarding the work that began in December 2016. Thank you Jim and Ken, Donna and everyone who volunteers and works on this project.

A LONG YEAR – DECEMBER 2016 – JANUARY 2017 KEN HILL AND JIM VAN DELDEN

Dismantling the defunct motor car's axles and wheels, clipping the myriad of colorful wires, cleaning the dirt off the insides, removing the portable potty (really), ripping out the nasty padding and seat leather was just plain hard work. Not sure if I learned a bunch but it was sort of different work from what I used to do for a living. Part of what I did do surely qualified me as a go-fer.



How all these wires will be replaced remains a mystery to yours truly but Master Mechanic Ken will figure it out in due time. In the meanwhile, a bunch of motor car wheels got sandblasted, primed and repainted a nice black color, courtesy of our wonderful host Rick at Medford Fabrication.



As an aside, the first time I'd ever seen a motor car or speeder on the rails was several years back in the Cornhusker State. Karen and I were attending a Memorial Day service in a small Northeast Nebraska village and the cemetery was just adjacent to a previously Burlington Route owned rail. Long story short, a dozen of these little four wheeled conveyances were clattering by. It looked like fun from a distance and I am sure the occupants on these cars also had a good time. Even though I was ready to jump in my jalopy and give chase, we waited until after Taps sounded. We never caught up to the group of motor cars and figured they had probably gotten loaded on

trailers and disappeared. Didn't have my camera with me that time.



Yeah, forgot to mention that the doors came off first so that the crew can work on the insides of the motorcar. Here is that mobile porta potty. Nope, I never looked for contents, wasn't that curious.



Aren't those wheels nice and shiny? We had lots of good hearted folks working behind the scenes. Ken is shown welding on the brake apparatus. I'm saving this segment and have much more on this next time.



Greeting visitors and selling tickets and guiding them where to go next is our lovely Marjorie Johnson.

We also have a short story about a Christmas Train in Eastern Oregon. Thank you very much Darcy White Kochanowsky for giving us permission to reprint this wonderful story. Hope you enjoy seeing it again.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

Southern Oregon Railway Historical Society Board of Directors Regular Meeting Minutes of December 12, 2017

Our meeting was cancelled due to illness and lack of a quorum.

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 9, 2018

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UPCOMING CHAPTER EVENTS

The entertainment for the **January 9, 2018** meeting will be a slide show called "Milwaukee Road Volume 2", presented by Allen Dobney.

If you know of any other events that should be added to our newsletter, please email, me at chrismanleysteam@gmail.com/call, (541-291-1705), with the details.

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