

“The Second Section”
Monticello Railway Museum
P.O. Box 401
Monticello IL 61856

**MONTICELLO
RAILWAY
MUSEUM;
Where “I’ve Been
Working on the
Railroad” Becomes
a Reality**

THE SECOND SECTION

2019
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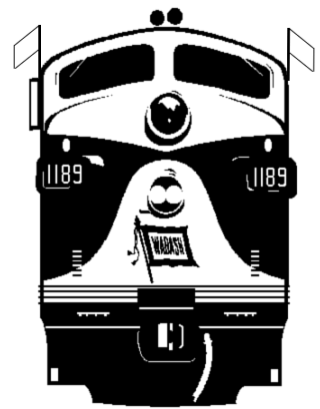
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GIFT SHOP OPEN FOR BUSINESS



Gift Shop Manager Carol Jones stands among the new items offered for sale in the gift shop.

There has been a lot of activity since the first of the year, in preparing the Nelson Crossing Gift Shop, as well as doing some pre-ordering for 2019 Polar Express®.

The goal this year is to offer more customized products at Nelson's Crossing, working with our vendors in January to get prices and designs for the custom products.

T-Shirts – Working with Daylight Sales for T-Shirts that have 401 and the Wabash engine on the front. Sizes range from 2 Toddler to adult 3XL in a variety of colors.

Hats – Working with Stitch America, we have a trucker style hat with 401 on the front, in two different colors.

Tumblers, glasses, liquid timers and whistles - Charles Products provided us with these products.

Hat Pins – Larry at Sundance Pins is currently working on two new hat pins; one will be the 401 Engine and the other the Wabash Engine.

A great deal of time and effort goes into working with the vendors and designing the final product. A special thanks to Matt and Alisha Jones, Paul Jones and Cindy Shaffer for helping with the hats and T-Shirts. Also, to Syl Keller for help with hat pins, magnets and other misc. items we sell! In addition to the custom products, the other activities that needed to be done to get Nelson Crossing ready for opening day included floor to ceiling

cleaning, ordering non-custom products and displaying all the merchandise to sell.

Polar Express® - Donna McClure and I did the first pre-order for Polar Express® 2019 at the end of February and will begin needing help late August through late September marking the merchandise.

Staffing – looking for help please!! You can find our extremely loyal volunteer, John Downing, in the gift shop most every Saturday and Sunday. We are looking for more help and would love for you to join us. If you have any interest in helping in the gift shop, **anytime** during the season, please contact John Downing John.Downing@MRYM.Org or **phone 217-840-6083**.

Carol Jones – Gift Shop Manager

SIGNAL IMPROVEMENTS CONTINUE



Work continues on the installation of equipment to make the signal system a fully functional operation. A signal case has been installed at the site of the IC Main-Northbound Distant Signal, which in advance, indicates the signal position at the Stair Tower Interlocker, IC Main Northbound Home Signal. Several hundred feet of wire will be installed along with a set of governing relays to become operational.

SCHOOL DAYS EVENT HELD

An opportunity for school children to ride a full-sized diesel-powered train was held at the museum on May 7th with 261 students in attendance. The students and chaperones had the opportunity to ride between Nelson Crossing and downtown Monticello, then tour the display cars and attend an Operation Lifesaver railroad safety program.

BRIDGE IMPROVEMENTS BEING MADE



One of the never-ending responsibilities of operating a railroad is the maintenance of bridge structures. This is an expensive but absolute necessary procedure for the safe operation. The Kopper Co. has been employed to replace the bridge cap (arrow) and the wing walls at each end of the Dighton Bridge, located south of Cemetery Road. (**Below**) Kopper Company employees are conducting maintenance work on the Camp Creek Bridge, located north of Cemetery Crossing.



HAVE A SAFE DAY....EVERY DAY!!!

TWO-MAN CREW MAINTAINS TRACKAGE



The museum maintenance of way crew consist of Thomas Hatcher (St. Louis) and Dan Frey (Champaign) are in the process of replacing ties on the former IC main line, south of County Road. Although retired, both men have installed several hundred ties, which could rival any Class I section gang.



2019 SCHEDULED EVENTS

STEAM SCHEDULE

401 in Steam: Ride behind our restored 1907-vintage steam locomotive!

June Saturday 22 - Sunday 23

July Saturday 20 - Sunday 21

August Saturday 17 - Sunday 18

September Saturday 21 - Sunday 22

October Saturday 5 - Sunday 6

Fall Throttle Time Saturday October 12

REGULAR SCHEDULE

Father's Day Weekend Saturday, June 15 and Sunday, June 16: Dads ride FREE when accompanied by their children!

Fireworks Special – July 3d See the Monticello fireworks without worrying about traffic.

Railroad Days – Saturday, September 21 and Sunday, 22: Come enjoy UNLIMITED rides on our vintage passenger and freight trains and motor cars running on our former Illinois Central and Illinois Terminal trackage, enjoy kids' games and more!

The Polar Express™ TBA 2019: Read along with the story as the train makes its round-trip journey to the North Pole.

Lunch with Santa on the Train – TBA: Enjoy a visit with Santa Claus while eating a kid-friendly sack lunch. This event is hosted by the Monticello Chamber of Commerce.



Your Attention Please!!

**Volunteers are requested!!
Come join those whom make the
museum function by becoming an
active member!!**