

## Pumpkin Patch Express Report

November 2022

After two missed years due to COVID, the 2022 Pumpkin Patch Express proved to be hugely popular. Financially we topped the previous three years by a wide margin.

Gross Totals:

	<b>2022</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2017</b>
Gate	\$2457	\$1980	\$1997	\$2715
Patch	\$3306	\$2265	\$1936	\$2993
Store	\$3106	\$619	\$1024	\$1304
Total	\$8869	\$4864	\$4957	\$7012

(\$9146 including donations)

Total expenses for pumpkins and advertising was \$2526. Cost of goods in store was \$1322. So total profit for the event was \$5298.

We delivered 38 bags of food for EPCAN.

Operations of WP 165 on the second weekend were a huge draw, but a decent number of people who showed up were not even aware the steam engine was running. We had visitors from as far away as Paradise and Chico. May heard about the event thanks to the public service notices Patty Clawson got placed for us on local radio stations.

I do not have a final list of volunteers. Hopefully have that for December meeting to thank everyone.

Several suggestions were made by volunteers and visitors. They include:

- Increasing admission charge or moving to a per person admission. Noted that Western Railway Museum charges \$23 per adult, Virginia and Truckee charges \$24 (and gives a free small pumpkin). While these do offer longer rides, their prices are far higher than ours.
  - Most common suggestion was to raise to \$14 or \$15 per car next year.
- Start trains earlier in day or offer motorcar rides before train operations.
- Bring back the Sasquatch.
  - Pay for photos with Sasquatch / Bigfoot. Have a Bigfoot Cave.
- Bring back vendors.
- Bring back Haunted Railcar.
  - As everyone is aware, we tried to have the Haunted Railcar this year, but the group who offered to do it backed out at the last minute.
- Reach out to local community groups for decorating and operation help. Do not use high school again.

Submitted by Eugene Vicknair