

# THE RLS CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS



April 2018



**Dale Chamberlain at the throttle of son Bob's Atlantic**

*"The introduction of so powerful an agent as steam to a carriage on wheels will make a great change in the situation of man."*

Thomas Jefferson, 1802

## The President's Words of Wisdom ...

Howdy Folks,

The Presidents message this month is as short as the month seemed to be. We managed to pull off the annual diner, congratulations to Richard Ronnie for Live Steamer of the year – it was well deserved and well earned.

There were a whole raft of awards passed out – we as a group really don't do a whole bunch to recognize those people who come out every run day and do what's required. Brakemen, crossing guards, switch tenders, the Hunter engineers who spend all day on the seat. Each one of them makes RLS function the way it does, which being as biased as I am towards the place, is just dandy.



That brings us to the next subject – the Spring Meet. Normally we have a bigger turn out during this one than the Fall Meet, so there are some things that we need to remember. Our guests come first during the meets – it's our time to share what we all know if a fine running organization, and a real Honest to God railroad. You all know we just don't play trains, we try and have some fun, but we do it in a safe manner. (It is my understanding that the Safety Weasel for RLS is a complete pain in the backside. How he got the position I'll never understand.)

With that being said, there are some things that we can do in the background to make it easier on poor Mr. Hesse who has to try and herd all the cats at the meet – Try and leave the steaming bays as open as possible – in other words, leave your cars in the storage area rather than bring them out when you pull your engine out to fire up, go get them when your ready to leave the compound. Try and allow for strange goings on – these are our guests, they don't run here all the time, and perhaps don't know how we do things. If you see things that aren't safe, go find the meet chairman or a Board member if you don't want to suggest another course of action to the guest. Above all, treat these folks like long lost brothers and sisters - after all we all are here because of steam and to paraphrase Will Rogers, these are folks who are friends of mine that I haven't met yet.

Let's have a good meet, good friends, good times, good steaming, and above all SAFETY FIRST. And oh, by the way – the O'Guinns are at it again, breakfast is served both mornings. Say thanks to the cooks, it's just another special little something that make our meets so much fun to attend.

Now that the government has given us back some useful daylight time, and the weather is almost warm enough to play outside, It's time for the...

# RLS 2018 SPRING MEET

## April 20-21-22

Thanks to our track crews, the railroad has never been in better condition. We have only one FUN/Work day on the 14<sup>th</sup> before the big day. With the recent rains, the weeds have come up in force, and the winds have rearranged everything in the compound. The club house needs a good going over, and anything not welded down needs to find a home in the containers or trash bins. In particular, the kitchen and refrigerator need to be totally empty. No leftovers from lunch, and no food left dated over 3 months old. With many eager hands, we can make short work of spiffing the place up, and hopefully only minor track work.

The meet has been posted in Live Steam Magazine, and on Discoverlivesteam web pages, and is open to members of any club. Please feel free to invite anyone you know that has an interest in live steam railroading and help make everyone welcome. **This is our day to play and visit with old friends NOT to entertain the public.**

On Saturday and Sunday mornings we'll have the traditional O'Guinn family breakfast from 7 to 9. To keep things simple, there will be no other catered or served meals scheduled, but you are welcome to use the Bar-B-Que or grill as desired if you'd like to do something for your own family or guests. A list and map of local restaurants is posted by the drinking fountain. There will be water and sodas available in the clubhouse throughout the meet.



No reservations are required for the meet. There will be 2 sign in sheets on the front table for members and guests. Please be sure to sign in on the member sheet at least once. Guests are always welcome, but any non RLS visitors or public must have a guest pass, and be escorted by a member. Compound Security and SAFETY is everyone's responsibility. **There can be NO RIDES for the PUBLIC on Friday or Saturday.** If asked, please invite them to return on Sunday at the Station starting at 10AM.

We have room for a small number of trailers or RV's inside the compound. So far, we've had no one sign up for overnight camping. If you plan to stay overnight, please contact Bill Hesse at 951-544-2740. If no one signs up, **we'll need at least one member to stay over each night to provide on-site security.**

Sunday the 22<sup>nd</sup> will be a regular public run day with the usual need for help at the station and getting the Hunter train in to service in the morning. Extra help in the compound will be appreciated by our out of town guests loading up for the trip home. - Bill Hesse



**2018 RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS  
SPRING MEET BREAKFAST MENU**  
Served April 21 and 22 7am until 9am

EGGS COOKED TO ORDER  
BACON, SAUSAGE, HASH BROWNS  
PANCAKES ON SATURDAY  
FRENCH TOAST ON SUNDAY

Yard shanty coffee  
Ice station Orange juice  
Make the grade milk

Prepared by the O'Guinns  
John, Patrick, Mary, Jean.

In memory of past RLS president Kenny O'Guinn



## Spring Meet Travel Tips From Gary -

Gary Mocko has been keeping an eye on the local Motels for the past couple of months and has this info: The Comfort Inn on University Ave changed names last month and is now a Quality Inn. Besides the sign changes, however, the hotel is exactly the same as it used to be. This also includes the Riverside Live Steamer rate of \$65/night. A reminder that you have to contact the hotel directly (not through the Choice Hotels website) and mention that you are a member or guest of the Riverside Live Steamers to get that rate. If you are a Choice Hotels member, it will still be credited as a stay.

I'll still put this motel the 3.5-4 star range. All the rooms were completely redone about a year ago, the WiFi and TV are above average (multiple HBO and Showtime channels), there is an iron/board, coffee maker, microwave & refrigerator in every room and their complimentary breakfast is well above average (eggs, sausage, pancakes, waffles, cereal(s), etc.) with coffee/ tea in the lobby all day. There is an exercise room and a small outdoor pool. For oversized vehicles/ trailers, there is also an adjacent open (compacted dirt) parking lot that can be used by hotel guests. (*Editors note: Gary recently reports that The Comfort Inn is booked up and that you may need to check frequently for room availability on the Meet dates.* )

## Along the Track by Rich Casford, Roadmaster

Rain did not stop the hard workers at RLS on Saturday, March 17, 2018.



The straightaway between the West Sidewalk crossing and the Big Pine Tree was again aligned by the track crew under the supervision of Surveyor Doug Prescott. This is normal after major alignment work the track crew would return to fine tune any settlement of the track.

With the good moisture in the track structure, the track crew moved to the Big Rock area south of Hunter Station and did some leveling and lifting of low joints.

The big project in the compound was the repair of the main water line. Water had to be shut off to the compound during the repair work. Compound Supervisor Bob Roberts lead a crew of diggers and pipe fitters and have the water restored by 11:30 AM.

Track inspection was conducted by the Roadmaster and found no issues for Run Day on March 25<sup>th</sup>, Westbound figure 8 track pattern.

## Congratulations R.L.S.!!



RLS was awarded the **Champion of the Community Award** at the California Parks and Recreation Society annual conference in Long Beach, CA March 16, 2018. This is a state-wide award and represents a high honor to RLS for the 52 years of service providing unique recreational activities in a public park. City Liaison Casford attended the banquet in Long Beach with 8 members of the Park Department leadership staff.

### More Award News

At the RLS Annual Dinner held on 3/3/2018 the following members were presented with awards:

Richard Ronne: **Live Steamer of the Year**

Richard Ronne: **Hogger of the Year**

Robert Stroud: **Nut Buster**

Matthew Ruff: **RLS Junior Member of the Year**

Ken Mitoma: **Brakeman of the Year**

Glenn Maness: **35 Years of Station Master Service**

Leone Fisher: **Station Assistant**

Tiffany Love: **Merchandise**

Cindy Caldera: **Station and Merchandise support**

## THANK YOU!!

A big thanks to Mary and John Gurwell for all of their work in setting up this years Dinner.



President Bunts speaking at the RLS 2018 Annual Dinner

## Riverside Live Steamers Safety Rule of the Month

**Rule #213:** Yard Limits Rules Apply to Hunter Station, Columbia Yard, Allen's Valley Yard, Main Enginehouse Leads and the Bunts By-Pass

Thanks to George Bartlow, Dayna Horgan and Joan Adams for the photos in this month Chronicle.

If you have photos, an article or anything else you'd like to submit to the Chron please email the Editor at: [rockwreckrr@roadrunner.com](mailto:rockwreckrr@roadrunner.com)

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## Upcoming Important Dates

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|--|--|
| April 8th: Run Day: (Eastbound Outside loop) | May 13: Run Day (Westbound Outside Loop) |
| April 14th: Fun/Work Day                     | May 19th: Fun/Work Day                   |
| April 20th - 22nd—Spring Meet                | May 27th: Run Day (Westbound Figure 8)   |

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The railroad is located at Hunter Park, 1496 Columbia Ave., Riverside, CA.

Call (951) 779-9024 during a Run Day or Work Day for more information.

Public Run Days are the 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month, Work Days (Fun Days) are held the Saturday following the first Run Day of the month.

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## Riverside Live Steamers Board of Directors

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