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# THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS

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December 2017 Chronicle



***“When facing a difficult task, act as though it is impossible to fail.  
If you are going after Moby Dick, take along the tartar sauce.”***

-H. Jackson Brown Jr.

**There is a RLS Training Class on December 9, 2017, starting at 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.**

All interested members please sign up on the sheet located on the club house vending machine.

You will need to bring your rule book to class. Probationary members please download "Rules, Whistle, and Hand Signals" from the RLS website and bring that with you.

You will be tested on the material in class including hand signals and whistle commands. There will also be a practical training on loading and unloading including incidents.

## The Safety Minute...

### Dave Bunts, Safety Supervisor

I know you all look forward to these little missives from the Safety Weasel, and I really don't want to disappoint. Today's subject is rule 209, printed below just so you don't have to scramble to find your rule book:

**209. A train stopped other than at a station or within yard limits must send out a flagman with a red flag or light that can be seen by an approaching train for a distance of at least 100 feet.**

This really is self-explanatory, but we've all seen the rule not being used - a poor unfortunate derailed the engine of the train, and after the initial OMG moment, gets off, and stares at it like he's never seen anything like it before and begins to mentally bemoan his fate. The interesting thing is the BRAKEMAN comes up to the engine and stares in the same fashion at the now grounded steam behemoth. Wrong move on the part of the Brakeman. His job is to protect the end of the now stopped train, which means he needs to go back and flag down anyone approaching. I KNOW we are all keeping the 100 spacing between trains (yeah, that's in the rules as well). Once the following train is stopped, it may approach the stopped train, but then the duties of rear end protection falls to the brakeman of the

second train, and it daisy chains along until the entire railroad is sitting behind the poor unfortunate soul who derailed in the first place. Also keep this in mind, the Brakeman of the first train, once the following train is stopped, is more than welcome to go up to the derailed engine and stare in wonder...but only after he has done his job protecting the end of his train.



## President's Remarks

### Dave Bunts, El Presidente

This is the first of 12 messages from the President that I get to write on a deadline to keep the Chron editor happy, and Lord knows we don't want HER annoyed with me. I think I would rather face a crazed electric locomotive operator...

The year should result in major improvements with our wonderful facility. The down side to all the improvements is the pace at which it's going to take place. The Board approved replacing the air, electric and water lines in the compound about a year ago, and to the uninformed it appears that nothing has taken place. Au contrair mon amis, things have in fact happened. Just to make it more interesting, an additional task has now been set

in front of the folks doing the work. We have established that the electrical service to the compound is being fed by an electrical service that is far overloaded, and we need to revamp the whole banana to keep it from melting down like a Russian nuclear plant. THAT little adventure has begun, with our esteemed Roadmaster and electrical service wizard Steve Borchert meeting with the Parks folks to give the we want to do this speech and presentation. Parks seemed to like the presentation, and will provide approval in a couple of weeks. We then get to talk with Riverside Power, then Building and Safety to get the permit to install the new electrical service. This is going to take place in conjunction with the steaming bay

upgrades because we don't want to keep digging trenches around the compound like mad gophers. The result is that project is once again slowed.

In effort to not lose the cooler weather, we are going to start welding in the third level of car storage in the Noble-Quick building. This will be a 'small group' effort - having lots of people around is counterproductive. Folks not doing anything will get bored, and then wander off. I know I would. So, the way around that is to use a smaller group to do the work required, and keep everyone busy. If you can weld with a wire feed welder, please see me. We have a BUNCH of welding to do....

In closing, I want to thank the outgoing Board members for doing what they did, this club runs on our membership doing what they do, and to a very small degree, having guidance by the Board. The guidance is small, but required - we do need to keep some semblance of order...We members know what needs to be done, and we do it, mostly without being asked to, but in response to a need. It seems to work for us.

Word has reached us that RLS member Bob Cavanaugh passed away in August, 2017. Bob joined RLS in July 1994 and was active in the 1990's serving as club treasurer for a two year term.



## Along the Track

### Rich Casford, Road 2

The Roadmaster had to become the Uber driver for Vice President Dave Bunts since he was recovering from shoulder surgery and not cleared to drive. Arriving at the Railroad later in the morning than normal for the Roadmaster it was a pleasure to see 9 work groups working around the facility on a variety of projects,

The November work day was very successful as we began the Winter Track program of alignment and leveling in the cool winter months. Dan Williams had a crew start at CY#1 Switch and level track to AV#1, Now go find your rule book and you can look up those switch numbers and see where the mainline work was done.

In the compound Richard Ronne and Ken Mitoma plus additional team members continued the work on the Hunter Train Brakes installation.

Signal & Security Manager Bill Hesse had a group replace a yard light on the East side of the compound.

The compound got cleaned up which is important part of making the RLS facility first class.

Lunch was served by Camp Cook Cheryl Lannon. At 1:00PM the final board meeting of the current term of directors was held. Results of the election of board members and officers is covered in another story.

**RULE #1 SAFETY FIRST!** A great Christmas Idea! Better than a lump of coal in your stocking! Tell Santa you want another Safety Rule Book!

If you would like to have another Safety Rule book to read at your bedside, have a spare copy in your tool box or desk at work we have additional copies available for \$5.00 per copy. Ask any Board Member to purchase additional copies of the rule book. You can never have enough copies!

Mark your calendars to join us on Saturday December 16th for our next schedule Fun (Work) Day at the Riverside Live Steamers.





***2018 RLS Calendars are now on sale!***

*Not only is it a great gift giving idea, but what better way to look forward to all the Runday and Workdays than by looking at a constant reminder of why you're in this hobby in the first place! Calendars are \$10 a piece and should be available no later than December's scheduled workday*



And now the moment you've all been waiting so eagerly for:

**The Announcement of the newly elected Board Members!**

Here they are, in no particular order:

Brook Adams, who will be serving his term as Secretary replacing Rich Casford

Bill Hesse, who will be serving as Vice President replacing Dave Bunts who has moved to the President position.

Tiffany Love and Ken Mitoma have replaced Larry Fisher and John Gurwell as Directors.

There you have it folks, another successful voting year. Congratulations to those that were elected and thank you to all who ran this year!

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**RLS CLUB T SHIRT ORDER FORM**

**These are Gray Shirts with pocket. Available this year in Regular and Tall Size.**

**Shirts are \$10.00 EACH**

**Small Regular** \_\_\_\_\_

**Medium Regular** \_\_\_\_\_

**Large Regular** \_\_\_\_\_

**These shirts are \$15.00 each**

**Large Tall** \_\_\_\_\_

**XL Regular** \_\_\_\_\_

**XL Tall** \_\_\_\_\_

**XXL Regular** \_\_\_\_\_

**XXL Tall** \_\_\_\_\_

**XXXL Regular** \_\_\_\_\_

**XXXL Tall** \_\_\_\_\_

**NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

**PLEASE PRINT NAME**

## The Little Engine's Big Day

Rev W Awdry

Once upon a time there was a Blue Engine. The Little Blue Engine loved nothing more than puffing along the tracks pulling important loads.

One day The Little Blue Engine was pulling some important trucks to the docks. At a junction The Little Blue Engine saw a Big Silver Engine. "Hurry up Slowcoach!", said The Big Silver Engine. The Little Blue Engine didn't like being called a Slowcoach, so when the signal went green, The Little Blue Engine puffed away as fast as his little wheels would carry him. He puffed faster, and faster, and faster over the hills and through tunnels. Steam puffed from his funnel and his pistons pumped faster than ever. "I'll show him!" puffed the Little Blue Engine.

The Little Blue Engine raced around a corner, but he was going too fast and came right off the tracks! Luckily no one was hurt.

Soon the Little Blue Engine was back on the tracks. The Big Silver Engine puffed past. "Hello, Slowcoach!" But this time the Little Blue Engine didn't listen to the Big Silver Engine and he puffed carefully to the docks. "Well done, Little blue engine. You are really useful," said the Dock Manager. The Little Blue Engine tooted with pride!

## Storage Update

Rich Casford, Storage Chairman

All engine and car buildings are currently completely full. Even if you see an open track it is rented by one of your fellow members. Do not bring any equipment to the facility at this time to store in the buildings.

I have three engines on a waiting list to store at our railroad. If you have a need for storage please send me an email [rich@wmp.net](mailto:rich@wmp.net) or call my cell phone (575) 756-4413 and I will put you on the wait list.

I will be working with the current members who have storage at the railroad making some adjustments in track locations in the next few weeks. Storage invoices will be sent out in the mail soon.

*To submit an article, picture, or other items, email the editor at: [ghostpublicist@gmail.com](mailto:ghostpublicist@gmail.com)*

## IMPORTANT DATES

**December 9th:** RLS Training Class

**December 10th:** Runday (East Outerloop)

**December 16th:** Workday

**December 24:** No Runday

**January 14th:** Runday (West Outerloop)

**January 20th:** Workday

**January 28th:** Runday (West Fig-8)

**February 11th:** Runday (East Outerloop)

**February 17th:** Workday

**February 25th:** Runday

**March 3rd:** Annual Dinner

The R.L.S. Chronicle is published by The Riverside Live Steamers, Inc., P.O. Box 5512, Riverside, CA, 92518. 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 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of every month, Work Days (Fun Days) are held the Saturday following the first Run Day of the month.

**For Work Day and Run Day updates, Visit:** [www.steamonly.org](http://www.steamonly.org)

## RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### Officers

**President:** Dave Bunts

**Vice President:** Bill Hesse

**Secretary:** Brook Adams

**Treasurer:** Jim Kreider

### Directors

Scott Horgan

Richard Ronne

Tiffany Love

Ken Mitoma