

July 2013

The RLS Chronicle

NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS



John Gurwell's turn on the Hunter

It was John's turn to get some experience running the Hunter engine. A member since 2012, John spent some time on Sunday doing the hands-on part of the Hunter Engineer training.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

View from the Right Hand Seat Box – President Rich Casford

Summer is here! RLS Members are a hardy bunch of railroaders! Little slows us down as we run the trains at Hunter Hobby Park. However, we all need to be aware of the warmer summer months during our operating and work days. Remember to drink plenty of water and use your sun screen. Keep an eye out for your fellow members as sun stroke can come over a person quickly. Remember drink lots of water!

The Board of Directors approved a new policy to help train operations during the summer months. The Operating Superintendent will be able to change track patterns during the Run Day for excessive heat. The flexibility in operations will help with station wait times for the public and keep our trains crews cooler. Changing from figure 8 track pattern to the outside loop only take two switch resets. The policy also allows for starting the day with the figure 8 track pattern and changing to the outside loop in the warm afternoons if needed.

We have had great membership support for both Run Days and the Fun (work) Days these past couple of months. Work continues in the compound for security alarm wiring for the Noble/Quick building and the storage container. Track crew is working on the straightaway alignment and ballast project. SMP Dave Bunts and his band of merry steam locomotive experts continue to keep our fleet of locomotives in tip top shape.

Run Days are also being supported well by the membership. We have had a good turnout of brakeman and engineers for the public trains, birthday trains and special event trains. The train crews on all trains are doing a good job of following operating rules for the railroad, using sidings and service tracks correctly. Remember as you enter a siding or yard track to restore the mainline switch back to the correct position.

C O N T I N U E D . . .

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All of this would not be possible without the support of the membership. We have several new members at RLS who have been actively participating in club events. New members are the life blood of any organization. Keep an eye out for red badge members and welcome them to the RLS Family! For all of you more seasoned members, remember to wear your name badge! We old timers also need help with names! If you can't find your badge, let Brook Adams know and he will make you a new one.

Summer time in Hunter Hobby Park will bring larger public usage. If you experience any issues with the general public during operations, please let the Operating Superintendent know so we can follow up with the appropriate people in the park. Be extra alert around the baseball fields with teams arriving and leaving to the parking lots. Make sure to use your locomotive whistle when approaching all sidewalks to alert the public. Remember Safety Rule #1 is SAFETY FIRST at RLS!

See you at the railroad,



Run Day June 9th 2013

On a generally hazy, overcast, and not as toasty as a typical summer day, the railroad experienced a mini-meet of locomotives. Bob Cummings and Rich Casford were both tackling the public, hauling over 730 people, with Manny Caldera, Ken Casford, and Charlie Gresham working as Brakemen keeping the order. John Gurwell, making a few laps on the Hunter, was working on his "Behind-the-Throttle", practical training aspect of his Hunter Engineer certification.

The Candle Lighters were also out for their yearly train excursion. Randy and Jonathan Chase were pulling them around the park running the Lannon Atlantic, and Dean Willoughby's Northern, Dean was supervising via the Brakeman's post. Brook Adams, on the C-16, and Nick Battello, as Brakeman, were logging in Party Train service hours that day too.

It wasn't all pulling crowds under the clouds, there was even freight engines out making laps on the track. Ron Wilkerson and Gus Farwick were running around on Ron's propane engine. Bill Hesse was toting some new members with his new 10-Wheeler and had Jon bringing up the rear as a Brakeman. Paul Quick and Sam Battello were out on the tracks running Paul's engine. Dave Moore and Al Bondesen were also down in the bays working on their locomotives.

Over all it was a wonderful Run Day. No problem or issue dared to show its face with David Lazarus as our Operating Superintendent With Many Badges. It was indeed a Mini-Meet with all the members and locomotives that decided to come out and enjoy the weather at the park.



Work Day June 15th 2013

It was a good work day. Many projects got done inside and outside the compound. Work continues on the DeNault engine. We're all looking forward to it being back on the rails.

Run Day June 23rd 2013

The somewhat overcast and slightly humid run day on the 23rd was met with seven engines and 766 passengers. The park was a busy place today, with many people out enjoying the cool breezes.

John Gurwell was out on the Hunter, with Dave Bunts and Brook Adams working a couple relief laps. Jim Wood and A.J. Benson were supervising via the Brakeman's car. Rich and Greg Casford were taking turns on their Pacific pulling the public with Charlie Gresham as Brakeman. Randy and Jonathan Chase were out on Dean Willoughby's Northern with Gary Mocko as Brakeman, while Dean spent some quality time with his Invicta out on the rails.

Paul Quick was out on his engine with Nick Battelo, Michael Reeves and Jack Tabontong. Jack also made a couple laps with Bill Hesse who was out as freight, running his locomotive with Jon Vatani and his sister as acting Brakemen. Jon's mom, Debra, was up at the station with Glenn, working the merchandise cart. Our hats off to her for jumping in and helping out. And Charlie Kennemer was out on his 2-6-0 making laps with a straddle car.

There were also quite a few people down in the steaming bays, working on their engines and such. Over all, a very relaxing day at the park with many smiling faces.





Jonathan and Randy double heading



Candlelighters waiting to board

Coming Events

July 14th: Run day

July 20th: Work day & Board meeting

July 28th: Run day

September 28th: Night run

August 11th: Run day

August 17th: Work day & Board meeting

August 25th: Run day

August 31st: Night run

October 25, 26 & 27: Fall Meet

For Work Day and Run Day updates, Visit: www.steamonly.org

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 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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