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# THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS

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June 2017 Chronicle



***Skip Borsuk worked as a machinist for Santa Fe and continued his love of trains into the scale hobby. He was a member of RLS since January of 1971. He was president from 1984-1985. During his life time he also served in the U.S. Army and the U.S. Navy. He was an integral member of the community and he will be missed.***

***Skip passed away Monday, May 15, 2017***



# President's Remarks

Brian Stephens

It is hard to believe that the year is half over. Time flies when you're having fun. Thank you to all of our members who have faithfully attended our monthly work days and worked hard to keep our railroad and facilities in such great shape. A special Thank You to Steve Borchert who replaced and painted all the aging wood steps and platforms in the steaming bays.

Thank you to our members who consistently work to safely operate the railroad on public run days. I think Glen Mannes has been our Station Master for 34 years and our small group of Hunter Engineers has never missed a day of operation. They have been supported by core groups of Station Agents and Brakeman. All of this is made possible by our Track, Motive Power, Signal and Security, Facility, and Car Departments. Way to go guys and gals!



As summer heats up (in more ways than one) it is important that we have enough members to staff the railroad and provide for breaks on run days. Please volunteer to spend a few hours on a run day helping to operate the railroad for our public passengers. Remember to hydrate, wear your hat, and apply sunscreen. Also keep in mind that we can get grouchy and irritable when we're hot, tired, and hungry. Fatigue can lead to taking short cuts and accidents. So, taking frequent breaks and being courteous at all times is important.

Please plan on joining us for one or more of our scheduled night runs this summer. They are Saturday July 1<sup>st</sup>, August 5<sup>th</sup>, and September 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Happy Steaming!

# Message from the Compound Supervisor

Bob Roberts

Hello fellow Live Steamers! I want to give a big THANKS to George for the pictures he brought out the last work day. He even had pictures of the conduits cut between the compound and Columbia Station! If it weren't for the shutterbugs amongst us our successes and yes, even our failures would fade into oblivion undocumented. Keep snapping those pictures.

The weather is turning warm and it is only going to get warmer. Remember to keep well hydrated. When you finish that drink please put the bottle or can into the proper recycle container. The money from recycling goes back into buy more drinks. Also dump any liquid left as the recycler makes us dump the container before they will take it. Help keep the cost down.

Steam on!





# Along the Track on May 20th, 2017

Rich Casford, Roadmaster

Mainline track inspection and alignment work was conducted by Dan Williams and Pat O'Guinn. Rails was replaced on Summit curve going to Big Pine along with a replacement rail installed on Creighton Cut-off due to a mower driving over the rail bending the rail.

Back in the compound, members cleaned up the facility, the parking lot was sprayed for weeds.

Master Switch Builder Richard Ronne was cutting tie material for a new switch. SMP-Project Manager Dave Bunts welded a storage rack for the new tie material that we purchased from the O'Guinn Family Business at a greatly reduced price.

The Roadmaster got the blower car out on the mainline, cleaned & blew off leaves and grass three quarters of the mainline before car truck problems caused the unit to go out of service.

Fortunately, Car Repair Foreman Brook Adams was working on a rider gondola in the compound so with the help of Compound Foreman Bob Roberts and the work truck we could deliver the blower car directly to the Rip Track for the CRF to inspect.

Speaking of inspections, if you discover a club car that needs attention from the CRF, please fill out the red tag, wire tie the red tag to the car and place the car on the floor tracks in Noble Quick Building so the car does not return to service before inspection and repair. It does no good to report a car needing service verbally to the OS or the CRF. Red Tags are in the Noble Quick Building near the light switches.

Signal Maintainer Bill Hesse and helper Mel Hitchcock was out working on the Flasher crossing signal and Wig Wag signal. Assistant SMP Larry Jongerius worked on the Hunter and did a boiler wash.

Lunch was provided by Chef Richard Ronne. The Roadmaster would like to thank all the RLS members who have handled the lunch duties! If you would like to try your hand at being the Work Day cook just let the Roadmaster know! We still have openings left for the balance of the year starting in July.

After lunch President Brain Stephens called the Board Meeting to order at 1:00PM with a moment of silence for departed Member & Past President Skip Borsuk.

Every member of the Riverside Live Steamers has a responsibility to lend a hand either on Work Days and/or Run Days to keep RLS operating safely and maintaining the facilities and track. Many hands make lite duty for everyone. Where else can you have so much fun and get a free lunch!

Mark your calendars to join us on Saturday June 17<sup>th</sup> for our next schedule Fun (Work) Day at the Riverside Live Steamers.

Road 2



## Safety Update!!

Dave Bunts, SMP

Hi Y'all – it's your favorite safety inspector here again

The biggest issue that I have seen with our bi-weekly run days is folks who believe that the wide open track that they see in front of them is carte-blanche to pull the throttle back into the tender and feel the wind blow their hair back...

Au contraire mon ami.

The speed limits at RLS are fairly straight forward:

**Yard Limits** (which include the Hunter Station trackage): Walking speed, with the ability to stop quickly

**Mainline:** The speed should be no faster than is safe, or in the curves the speed must be no more than that in which you can STOP (not slow down, actually stop) in half the distance that you can see. The worst areas for visibility are Palm Garden and the curve going INTO Allen's Valley under the bridge when running Westbound. Keep these places in mind.

Please be aware that not all stopped trains send out flagmen (a subject for another note later) and as the engineer you may find yourself running up on a stopped train and finding yourself dragging your feet, pulling back on the cab and praying to the steam gods that you don't smack into the poor bugger who is stopped ahead of you looking back in horror.

We all need to keep in mind that nasty movie from the 50's "Speed Kills", or if you're from the 60's, the same thing applies, but it was a different thing that they were talking about.

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

## IMPORTANT DATES

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

**June 17th:** Workday

**June 18th:** Father's Day

**June 25th:** Runday (East Fig-8)

**July 1st:** Night Run

**July 9th:** Runday (West Outerloop)

**July 15th:** Workday

**July 23rd:** Runday (West Fig-8)

**August 5th:** Night Run

**August 13th:** Runday (East Outerloop)

**August 19th:** Workday

**August 27th:** Runday (East Fig-8)

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)

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