
THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS

September 2016 Chronicle



The first week of August hangs at the very top of summer, the top of the live-long year, like the highest seat of a Ferris wheel when it pauses in its turning. The weeks that come before are only a climb from balmy spring, and those that follow a drop to the chill of autumn, but the first week of August is motionless, and hot.

-Natalie Babbitt, Tuck Everlasting

ELECTION TIME!!

Summer is almost over and it is time to be thinking about the Board of Directors elections.

The eight members of the Board of Directors has the responsibility to make sure the Railroad activities are conducted in a safe manner and provides direction in the various projects the organization under takes during the year. The Board accounts for the income and expenses of the Railroad.

The Riverside Live Steamers is just like any other Railroad when it comes to the business of operating trains, track and facilities. We have monthly and quarterly expenses in that must be paid on time. As a 501 (c) 3 not for profit organization we have tax forms that required annual filings. Operating in Hunter Hobby Park requires certain contacts during the year with the City of Riverside.



Nominations for the Board of Director elections are made at the September and October Board Meetings. Nominations are open to any Regular Member of RLS. Duties of a Board Member are attendance at the monthly Board Meeting, a rotation of Operating Superintendent duties on Run Days. The OS position allows for one Board Member to be in charge at a Run Day. It is not work but an important part of the RLS organization.

Appointed manager positions are made by the Board of Directors for the various tasks around the Railroad. Roadmaster, Stationmaster, Compound Supervisor, Car Repair Foreman, Superintendent of Motive Power, Safety Inspector, Signals Manager, City Liaison and Switch Maintainer are appointed by the Board.

The term of office is for 2 years, with four members rotating off the Board each year (for at least a 12 month off duty time.)

If you would be interested in serving on the Board and help improve RLS in the years ahead please contact any Board Member. You will find the Board activities very rewarding.

Work Day Recap: August 20, 2016

Rich Casford, Roadmaster

With a good turnout of members early before it got hot, the new switch to the Escape Track in Allen's Valley was transported out to the job site. This switch was installed on the North Fuel Lead track just west of the ashpit. We now have the alignment plotted for the new trackage.

After the switch was positioned the track crew dug out the hard packed dirt to install the switch. With the use of the power portable track tamper which is mounted on the rerail work truck the project was finished by 11:15. This allowed the track crew to divide and conquer several heat kinks from the prior week's 100+' temperature in Riverside.

Back in the compound the SMP Dave Bunts was working on the Hunter locomotive maintenance and repaired the damaged value gear on the C-16 which had failed on the July 24th Run Day.

New Members Bob Chamberlain and Tom Brody came out to get a hydro on a newly acquired Little Engines 4-4-0.

Julie Shifter was the camp cook for the work day. The food was great, just what the workers needed after a good morning RLS Fun (work) Day activities. Board Meeting followed under the direction of VP Bill Hesse covering for President Mike Gardner who was participating in a Pokemon Go event in downtown Riverside. I know who had more fun.....and we did not need to walk around with our heads buried in our cell phones!

The following Monday, Bill Hesse got up at the crack of dawn to meet the fence company to install the new gate posts for the second track gate for the new line. THANK YOU Bill!!! Bill had about 47 minutes notice that he had to be at the railroad! Fortunately, he lives 7 minutes from the track!!

Our next schedule Fun (work) Day will be September 17th starting at 8:00 AM.

See you at the railroad

Runday Recap: September 28th

Brook Adams– Operating Superintendent

The Day opened clear and warming, unfortunately the cloudy mornings of the previous two days did not stick around for Sunday's Run Day.

Thanks to John Gurwell who got things started before I arrived and Richard Ronne for setting the switches and clearing the railroad of debris.

We had a great turn out of 32 members taking time out of their weekend to either help out on the railroad, enjoy our live steam hobby and fellowship or both!



Eight freight engines were out on the steaming bays early with six of those making it out on the railroad. Steve and Peggy Borchert were out on their 2-6-2, running his mighty 2-8-4 was Gary Mocko, new members Tom Brody and Bob Chamberlain were running Tom's 2-6-0 with a little coal burning in-service from Scott Horgan, Brian Stephens

was out on his Mogul, Larry Fisher and Charlie Grisham we operating Ron Wilkerson's Mikado and Doug and Julie Sifter made quite a few laps on their 0-4-0 Wren.

Hunter Passenger service was handled by Bill Hesse at the throttle of the Hunter with a couple brief breaks from Mike Gardner and John Gurwell, along with Hunter Brakemen of the day Mike Gardner, Chris Neiman and Ken Long.

Station Master Glenn Maness took care of the very full station of



folks squeezing in one of the last Run Days of Summer, assisting at the station and handling the Merchandise Cart were Leone Fisher, Tiffany Love and Julie Sifter and covering the four track crossing was Junior Member Matthew Ruff.

Our Superintendent of Motive Power Dave Bunts provided Bob Roberts with some locomotive firing training on the Hunter. After his training Bob went up to the Station to help out – Thanks Bob!

Recording the day's events in photos were George Bartlow in the morning and Joan Adams in the afternoon.



And in a final note, making her first trip to the railroad (thanks to Momma Dayna and Papa Scott), two and a half week old Junior-Junior-Junior Member Lillian Horgan came out to make sure everything went smoothly.

Safety Items

When approaching a trailing through a switch, make sure the switch throw is in the position of your travel or you might derail your pilot truck. Our switches are NOT sprung, we use the springs to make sure the points are closed when you are approaching facing points.

When proceeding through the station area reduce your speed as you approach the 4 track public sidewalk. If there are people in the area, they may not see you and step out in front of you. Speed should be reduced in the entire length of the station yard limit signs. Rule #1 is Safety First!



With the Members

It has been reported that Road One Ken Casford has had to move into an assisted living facility in La Mirada following some continued mobility issues.

Congratulations are in order for RLS members Dayna & Scott Horgan on the birth of their daughter Lillian Elise Horgan and the proud grandparents Joan & Brook Adams. Dayna & Scott the next Hunter Class starts in two weeks, sign her up!

RLS member Leone Fisher is recovering from a broken arm and hopes to be out at the railroad soon.

Mary Gurwell, wife of Board Member John Gurwell is recovery from surgery.

And in the what do you do when your railroad is shut down for Star Wars???

RLS Member Ryan Briggs who also works in engine service at Disneyland decided when the Disney RR was to be closed for the construction of the new Star Wars theme area that he would take a little hike.....and as of last Saturday he had just passed milepost 2387.4 at Goat Rocks miles of the Pacific Crest Trail!!!! Talk about taking an afternoon walk! Ryan started at milepost "0"! Maybe he is staking out the next extension for RLS? **UPDATE:** As of 9/1/2016 Ryan completed his walk.

Latest Polling Results!!

Written by- Bill Hesse

Latest poll shows RLS ahead of Hillary and Donald by a wide margin....

Oops, wrong kind of pole.

Two poles and temporary mesh were installed this morning by Elrod fence Co. It will now take 1 to 2 weeks to fabricate the gate for the bypass track. They'll let us know when it's ready, and hopefully give us more than the 62 minutes of warning they gave us this morning to get to the compound. The sketch was a bit vague, as usual, but I had them center it on my best guess of the track center line, swinging inward. It would be nice to have a stake, showing the expected TOP of RAIL when they hang the gate. We may need to sand off the top of the front tie wall a bit.



Item 2:

While Elrod was busy, I took some time to call AT&T support. Our current DSL line provides 4MB download, and 1MB upload, for \$75 / month. It's keeping up with the camera system as long as I keep the refresh rate down and only 2 or three members are logged in at a time. This MAY become a problem if we start hosting our own WebPages, though I doubt we'll ever have more than a few members or public on line at the time. The only available upgrade is T1, that gains us less than 50% on speed at more than double the cost. Next higher is true fiber, at 10 to 20 times faster, but starts with construction cost of a 500 foot trench down Columbia Ave. plus \$500/month. I think it's safe to assume we voted against any changes in service until it becomes a real problem.

Another Meet Already?!

It's hard to believe that almost half a year has passed since the 50th Anniversary meet. The fall meet will be October 21-22-23. That may seem a long time off, but there are only 2 scheduled work days, and maybe a few extra events to get the railroad and compound ready for our guests. The track and compound groups have been particularly busy this past summer adding the bypass track, moving fences, building tie walls, and enlarging the parking areas. There's still plenty to do to get the compound presentable for the meet. An extra large turnout for the work (fun) days will be appreciated. Did I mention the free donuts and free lunch for the workers?

We'll be a little less formal this time in trying to fill the positions on the job list and finding people to commit to half a day manning switches or unloading visiting trains. At the spring meet, there was never a shortage of volunteers when the need arose. There are still a couple of critical positions that need to be scheduled in advance.

In the long standing tradition of RLS, there will be breakfast served Saturday and Sunday for the members and visiting guest railroaders. Dan Williams has already volunteered to make pancakes on Saturday, but we still need a lead cook for Sunday. (Anyone know how to make French Toast?) At least 2 other people are needed each morning for preparation and serving. Setup begins at 6AM, with breakfast from 7-9. Contact Bill Hesse if you're available.

Sunday the 23rd will be a regular public run day, and out-of-town visitors will be loading up. With several extra trains on the railroad for the meet, Glenn will appreciate all the help he can get in the station.

The track and the park are in great shape. If everyone keeps an eye on SAFETY, help each other out, and keep the public from getting too close to the railroad, it should be a fun and relaxing meet for everyone.

Richard Ronne's Chili Con Carne

- 2 or 3 # Top Sirloin cut into 3/4" square chunks
- 2 # Ground Beef (Extra Lean / 90/10)
- 1/3 Cube Butter
- 2 or 3 Cloves fresh Garlic minced fine
- 1 1/2 Teaspoons of Salt (less or more to taste)
- 1 1/2 Teaspoons of Pepper (less or more to taste)
- 4 Cups chopped Onion (Yellow or Brown)
- 3 1/2 Cups chopped Celery
- 3/4 to 1 Cup Chili Powder (Schilling or McCormick brand)
- 2 28oz cans Whole Tomatoes (Hunts or San Marzano)
- 1 28oz can Diced Tomatoes (Hunts or San Marzano)
- 1 28oz can Crushed Tomatoes (Hunts or San Marzano)
- 2 15oz cans Hunts Tomato Sauce
- 1 8oz can Hunts Tomato Paste
- 20 Ounces Campbell's Tomato Juice
- 3 27oz cans S&W Dark Red Kidney Beans (drained)
- Optional: 1/2 Teaspoon Extra Hot Ground Chili (Rana brand)

12 Quart Saucepan minimum needed for the quantity above and will make about 30 - 1 cup servings. This Chili freezes very good and I usually freeze in 2 cup portions for convenience for a quick home made microwaveable meal.

Sauté Top Sirloin in Butter, Garlic, Salt & Pepper on medium high heat until almost browned. Add Ground Beef and Brown all meat but don't over cook the meat. Add Onion & Celery and cook until Al Dente. Do not over cook the vegetables! Reduce heat and add Chili Powders and fold in. Add cans of Whole Tomatoes and trim off stems and discard and cut up tomatoes in the pot. Add Diced Tomatoes, Crushed Tomatoes, Tomato Sauce, Tomato Paste, & Tomato Juice. Mix well and cover. Raise heat until simmer starts. Reduce heat and simmer covered for 1 Hour. Stir every 10 minutes. Slow simmer is better than too high heat simmer which will overcook everything. Turn off heat and add drained Kidney Beans. Fold Beans into mixture and cover for 10 minutes. Chili is now ready to eat. Serve with fresh chopped Onion, Jalapeño, Grated Cheddar Cheese, Crackers or whatever your preference. Let cool 2 hours and put in Rubbermaid sealing type containers and freeze for quick meals. Recipe can be reduced in size if desired. Also Ground Beef can be substituted for the Sirloin for quicker prep time if you are in a rush.

IMPORTANT DATES

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| Sept 3rd: Night run | Oct 9th: Runday (East/
Outerloop) | January 28th, 2017:
Annual Dinner |
| Sept 11th: Runday (West/
Outerloop) | Oct 15th: Workday | |
| Sept 17th: Work Day | Oct 21st-22nd: Fall Meet | |
| Sept 25th: Runday (West/ Fig-8) | Oct 23rd: 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 2nd and 4th Sunday of every month, Work Days (Fun Days) are held the Saturday following the first Run Day of the month.

RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Officers

- President:** Mike Gardner
- Vice President:** Bill Hesse
- Secretary:** Brook Adams
- Treasurer:** Joan Adams

Directors

- Larry Fisher
- Brian Stephens
- John Gurwell
- Rich Casford