

THE RLS CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS



November 2019



R.L.S. President Brian Stephen running his Mogul at the Palm Garden curve.

“...what thrills me about trains is not their size or their equipment but the fact that they are moving, that they embody a connection between unseen places.”

— *Marianne Wiggins*



President's Words Of Wisdom -

Our Fall Meet organized by Tiffany Love with assistance from John Gurwell was very well attended. It was good to see Bill Hesse back at the track while he is recovering from his latest leg surgery. Many thanks to everyone who brought items to the Saturday Night potluck dinner and to our breakfast cooks Tom Lebbs and sons. The RLS Track Crew would also like to thank Tom Lebbs for his efforts to construct a new blower car. The design, construction, and function are remarkable making quick work of clearing the tracks on run day mornings.

Engineers operating locomotives (steamers only of course) on the railroad should remember the reduced speed limits within the posted yard limits and while on the main line be more concerned with how fast can I stop this train instead of how fast can I go. Engineers and Brakeman should also be aware of other trains out on the railroad and their location.

Don't forget to vote for RLS 2020 Board Members. Look for your ballot in the mail very soon. Ballots must be returned by mail and received at the P.O. Box by November 16rd. This is another opportunity for input into the management of your club and its assets.

We now have 167 members and hope to see more of you join us on the third Saturday of the Month for our Fun (work) Days where we maintain the railroad and facilities that we all enjoy, eat lunch together, then conduct the business of the club. Many members even stay after to work on their own equipment and socialize. Please come and join us.

See you at the Railroad,

- *Brian Stephens*

Fallen Flag

It is with a very heavy heart that very close and dear friend of ours Robert Woodward passed away October 22, 2019.

Our condolences to Gail Woodward and family.

He will be greatly missed. He was very active with LALS, OCME, RLS & more.

A memorial will be scheduled at a later date.





Along The Tracks - Rich Casford, Road 2

NEW UPGRADED BLOWER CAR AT RLS

You unload your engine, fire up and proceed out on to the mainline. Track is clear and you have a great day with live steam at RLS. However, there is another story that happens prior to most run days.

When Hunter Hobby Park was originally built, the railroad had grass on the street side of the outside loop and dirt on the inside. Our largest problem was weeds from the occasional rainstorm since the grass was only watered with an irrigation system using above ground pipes and sprinklers.

With the 2008-2010 park remodeling project, underground sprinkler systems, grass over the majority of the flat surfaces, and trees with seasonal leaves, the need for a system to clear off the railroad was required.

Starting with leaf rakes, then switching to handheld gas and battery powered leaf blowers it required manpower to clear off the tracks prior to operations. Track clearing is not a glamorous job, however for good train operations and reduced derailment issues it is very important.

For years the Roadmaster and other "Early Risers" would do track inspections prior to run days before the majority of RLS members arrive at the compound.

We had a generator mounted on a flatcar that was used in track work when we had electric drill motors in use. I picked up a couple of electric leaf blowers, using some RR ties and C clamps, rigged up a blower car to speed the cleaning of the track. After several months of trial & error, I figured out the proper angle for the blowers to remove the tree leaves and other trash on the track without blowing the rock ballast out from between the ties.

Tom Lebs, one our "Earlier Risers" who would inspect and clean the track on Run Days offered to take the blower car home and install proper handles and brackets. The photo is the finished product! The new blower car has the following added features: power switches to kill the power to the blowers before crossing a concrete grade crossing; adjustments for vertical and horizontal positions of the blower nozzles; storage positions for rake, broom and pick bar for grade crossing cleaning; brackets to hold generator in place and a push handle.



Tom has done an outstanding job of design and construction on the car.

Clearing the track is not reserved just for the Roadmaster or our "Early Raisers" on Run day. If you would like to learn how to operate the new blower car, please contact me. Tom and I would be happy to share our fun!

Rich Casford, Roadmaster

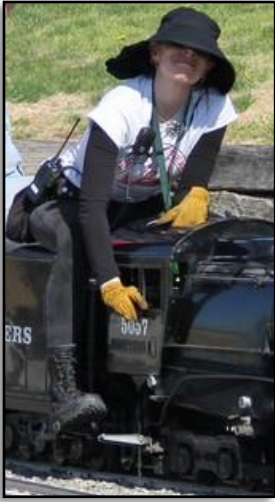
RLS Run Day 10-13-19

A light member turn out for the October 13th Run Day. With Operating Superintendent Bob Roberts at the helm we had three passenger trains in service with Rich Casford firing and running the UP 4026 4-8-8-4 with Jerry Roth as Brakeman in the morning followed by David Lazarus in the afternoon, Richard Ronne and Matthew Ruff once again covered the Birthday train as well as passenger service at the station. The Hunter train was crewed by Brook Adams and Chris Nieman. 668 passengers received the grand circle tour of Hunter Park with three freight trains sharing the rails. We had 27 members out throughout the day with a nice day of operations and a high of 84 degrees.



Fun/Work Day 10-19-19

The work day before the Meet, though lightly attended, was productive. The Compound was cleaned up by Chris Neiman. Out on the railroad Richard Ronne and Kevin Zamp serviced switches while Dan Williams, Pat O'Guinn and Mark Spaulding leveled track on the straightaway. The Roadmaster sorted gondola car seats into proper cars and set three additional brakeman cars ready for the Fall Meet. Track was leaf raked in several areas to remove tree trash.



2019 Fall Meet

Well, I can put another notch in my belt! The Annual Fall meet has come and gone. I really appreciate all the help this time around too. I'll get to thanking everyone specifically in just a moment, but I wanted to address something first. I had plenty of people coming up to me telling me what a great job I'd done and how much fun they had. While it warms my witchy little heart to know that everyone had such a wonderful time under my 'reign', I have to admit that I don't feel like I am fully responsible for all the accolades. Without the help and dedication of so many of our wonderful members, nobody would have had as much fun as they did. As the old saying goes,

"many hands make light work." This is especially true of our Annual Fall Meet. I simply could not have done everything on my own and I am in awe of how many of our members stepped in to do jobs that would've otherwise gone undone or would have fallen on me.



First and foremost, I want to thank John Gurwell. He has been my right-hand henchman throughout this whole event, planning to implementing. From organizing the potluck Saturday night, finding someone to take over the breakfasts AND doing all the shopping for it, to just plain being there for anything that needed to be done, John was there. If anyone can take credit for things going as smoothly as they did, it would be him. Thank you John for all of your help!!

How about that potluck? Thanks to everyone that helped out with the potluck, bringing in such delicious dishes and treats to share or contributing bags of ice to keep our drinks cool. Peggy Borchert even wrapped up hundreds of utensils for us! Special thanks to Richard Ronne, Randy Chase, and Tim Wheeler for cooking our meats (and my non-meat)!



I don't know about all of you, but I don't think ANYONE would've wanted to eat anything I had to cook! As such, I'd like to recognize and give huge kudos to Tom Lebs, his son Steve, and their friend Corey Failla for taking on the Breakfast challenge! As you may or may not know, long time breakfast champions, the O'Guinn family, stepped down from cooking us all breakfast after the Spring Meet. While the O'Guinn's will be missed, Tom, Steve, and Corey did an amazing job of not only cooking breakfast both Saturday and Sunday, but also cleaning up afterwards. Fantastic job gents!!

Continued...

2019 Fall Meet cont..



Speaking of cleaning up...our very diligent compound supervisor, Bob Roberts, can use everyone's help in making sure that the tables and floors get cleaned up after we enjoy the feast. So please make sure you're throwing your trash away or just pitching in and tossing those half empty water bottles that somehow get left sitting around. Bob is our compound supervisor, not the janitor!

I also want to thank Bob and Chris for running the Hunter on Sunday. Richard Ronne, Matthew Ruff, Johnathan Rhorbach, and Kevin Zamp had a double train out to help the Hunter pull passengers. Tom Lawson did his best, but dead batteries kept him from running more than a couple laps.



Thanks to our team of brakemen, Marty the flag man, and Station Master

Glenn. I'm sure our public appreciates it as well.

Everything went so smoothly! Randy and Ronne headed up the night runs, Scotty kept watch overnight, and all was well in the mornings. The only setback I know of was when Tom Lawson derailed up at Hunter Station early Saturday. Even he was impressed at how quickly our re-rail crew came to his aid. Then Dave and his lovely assistant Betsy fixed the main line track in no time and we were up and running as normal!

If I've forgotten to thank anyone, it's only because I got so little sleep that I can't remember everything. Thank you to everyone that helped out or contributed to the success of The Fall Meet! I had a wonderful time catching up with everyone and definitely missed a few familiar faces that couldn't make it out this time around. I'm still in awe that I was allowed to be in charge of this shindig!

- *Tiffany Love*



From the Assistant to the Meet Chair:

I would just like to thanks all the members for helping with the Meet and Pot Luck. Every member who I spoke with brought something even some guest, we had more than enough food for everyone include guests. Avery heart felt thanks to the small group that stayed late Sunday to help clean up. I think the Club was very fortunate to have Tom Lebs, Steve Lebs and Cory Failla step in as Breakfast Cooks two of which are not even members. Being a small part of that makes me realize just how much the O'Guinns did for us. Thank you to Tiffany Love for being O.S. and the fun decorations.

- *John Gurwell*



FULL HOUSE!! STORAGE 2020 DO YOU WANT TO STORE YOUR EQUIP- MENT AT RLS?

All the RLS storage buildings are full at this time. Storage invoices will be mailed in December. If you are reducing your storage, please let me know so I can adjust your storage invoice.

Please do not bring equipment to RLS thinking you saw an open space. All tracks are rented to members and the buildings are filled to the end of each track. Any open space has been rented and you can not place your equipment on those tracks.

If you are interested in storing your equipment, please send me an email rich@wmp.net or call me (575) 756-4413 so I can put you on the waiting list.

Rich Casford - Storage Chairman



Calendar Who Is That?

Upper Left Brakeman Manny Caldera

Upper Right Ken Adamson on his 2-6-0

Lower Left Assistant Superintendent of Motive Power-Big Boy David Lazarus

Lower Right Compound Foreman, Hunter & C-16 Engineer Bob Roberts








2019 - 2020 RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS

BOARD OF DIRECTOR ELECTIONS

Nominations for the four upcoming Board of Director vacancies were officially closed in last October's Board meeting.

Ballots have been sent out, do be sure to check your mail and get your ballots mailed back before the November 16th Board Meeting. Only ballots received via the Post Office will be counted NO walk in/Hand delivered ballots will be tallied.

Below are the nominees for the 2019-2020 Riverside Live Steamers Board of Directors:

	<p>Kevin Zamp - Member since 2018, Club Webmaster, Brakeman</p>
	<p>Dave Bunts - Member since 1996, Past President and Board Member, current SMP, Safety Supervisor and Project Manager, Hunter Engineer and Brakeman</p>
	<p>John Gurwell - Member since 2012, Past and current Board Member, Hunter Engineer and Brakeman</p>
	<p>Chris Neiman - Member since 2016, Hunter Engineer and Brakeman</p>
	<p>Rich Casford - Member since 1970, Past President and Board Member, RoadMaster and City Liaison, Hunter Engineer and Brakeman</p>



R.L.S. ANNUAL DINNER

Saturday January 04, 2020

HIDDEN VALLEY GOLF CLUB

10 CLUBHOUSE DR. NORCO, CA 92860

6:00 p.m. - Social Hour

7:00p.m. - Dinner

This year we are returning to the same location for our annual dinner.

Please return the form below. \$26.00 per person

There will be door prizes, 50/25/25 cash drawing, videos, awards and a special guest speaker.

Social Hour at 6:00 p.m.

Dinner is at 7:00 p.m.

Dinner will be buffet style with the following:

Caesar Salad BBQ Chicken - Chicken Parmesan - Tri Tip

Blue Cheese Mash Potatoes - Mixed Vegetables - Cornbread

Coffee, Tea, Soft Drinks and dessert.

We need to have confirmed reservations and payment by **December 22, 20019.**

Please list the names of the persons attending at the bottom of this letter and return your reservations, with check payable to R.L.S. as soon as possible to:

Glenn Maness, 25307 Alta Vista Dr., Moreno Valley, CA 92557

1. MEMBER \$26.00 per person: Name _____
2. Guest / Spouse \$26.00 per person: Name _____
3. Additional Guest \$26.00 per person: Name _____
4. Additional Guest \$26.00 per person: Name _____

“Thomas” is returning to the **Southern California Railway Museum**, November 2, 3, 9, 10, & 11 2019
 For more information check their website at: <https://www.oerm.org/thomas/>

Great Train Show - Sacramento, CA January 4-5, 2020 - 10am-4pm
 Discount tickets can be purchased here: <http://trainshow.com/sacramento/>

Thanks to Chris Nieman, Brian Stephens, Joan Adams, Tiffany Love, John Gurwell, Debbie Perkins and Rich Casford, for the photos and articles in this month Chronicle.

If you have photos, an article or anything else you'd like to submit to the Chronicle please email the Editor at: rockwreckrr@roadrunner.com

Upcoming Important Dates

Nov 10th, Run Day (Westbound Outside Loop)	Dec 14th: Fun/Work Day
Nov 16th: Fun/Work Day - RLS Election	Dec 22nd: Run Day (Eastbound Figure Eight)
Nov 24th: Run Day (Westbound Figure Eight)	January 2nd: Annual Dinner 6:00pm
Dec 8th, Run Day (Eastbound Outside Loop)	Jan 12th, Run Day (Westbound Outside Loop)

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 2018-2019 Board of Directors

Officers

President: Brian Stephens

Vice President: Tiffany Love

Treasurer: Joan Adams

Secretary: Brook Adams

Directors

Glenn Maness

John Gurwell

Bob Roberts

Ken Mitoma