

THE RLS CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS



December 2019



Fallen Flag

Former RLS Board member Larry Fisher past away on November 22nd. Larry's smile and enthusiasm for the live steam hobby will truly be missed.



President's Words Of Wisdom

I have to admit the estimable Chron editor send me an e-mail and asked if I had words of wisdom for the latest edition of the 'company rag'. Uhh, no. Not only do I not have any wisdom, I hadn't thought about the Presidents message. I first am going to thank the outgoing Board of Directors for the service they have provided for the last two years. The membership of this organization is what is really drives it, and the Board of Directors attempts to just direct the efforts. It doesn't always work that way, but that is a good thing. The membership here at RLS talks to each other during the steam-up process and at the water stops, and the group seems to have reached a consensus before the board even catches wind of the proposals. I suppose it is a minor republic here, but then it works for us. Being on the Board is a chore at times, a pleasure at times, and as frustrating as trying to herd cats most of the time. The

folks going off have more than earned their year of rest. I would dearly love to tell you all that my administration promises a chicken in every pot (well except for outgoing Board member Ms. Love, who will get a rutabaga and some tofu), sunny weather all the time and general peace in the world. I can't. YOU all will determine where we are going. There are approved projects that are on the list, but that doesn't mean that you can't offer up stuff that will make RLS the best railroad club in the world. Some of it will go well, some not so much. BUT the board will do it's best to make the membership happy with improvements.

Three things to keep in mind – the Spring meet is in 5 months. Perhaps we need to start thinking about it now, The annual dinner is coming up at Hidden Hills Country Club, tickets are on sale now and the camaraderie is always good.

The last, first and always – SAFETY FIRST!

- David Bunts

From the Editor,

First, a big thanks to all the members that supported RLS this past year. Whether it was doing what you can on the Fun/Work Days, helping out on the Run Days or Meets, operating your equipment on the Run Days or serving as Board Member, each of you have contributed to our organization to make it better, and by extension, improved the live steam model railroading hobby.

As we all know life has a funny way tossing a monkey wrench into the spinning gears of day to day living. Our hobby gives us a chance to look away from that chaos of the moment and focus, for a bit, on something else.

It may be the firing of your engine on the steaming bay, the enjoyment of purchasing and adding to your roster a piece of rolling stock, It might be the challenge of modeling a miniature replica of a piece of railroad history, telling stories with fellow live steamers or simply being momentarily lost in the sights sounds and smells of operating your engine on the railroad.

All these things provide your mind a little break so that when you are done and have to look back on to your daily life you can do it from a little better vantage point.

- Brook



Along The Tracks - Rich Casford, Road 2

November workday had perfect weather to improve the railroad.

Starting off the morning, the track cleaned up the steaming area as workers assembled for the day's activities.

Out on the mainline, the track crew leveled and aligned from the Diamond Crossing to the station fence. After completing that section of the mainline the crew moved to Columbia Yard and leveled the mainline through the yard tracks. The Mainline Track Crew for day were Brian Stephens, Ken Long, Chris Neiman and Doug Shifter. Track inspector Pat O'Guinn worked in Allen's Valley and David's

Yard trackage.

SMP Bunts was busy working on brackets for the Hunter Locomotive train brake valves.

Car Repair Foreman Brook Adams serviced another car from the RLS Fleet.

Compound Supervisor Bob Roberts was busy with several tasks in the compound, John Gurwell installed lights in the storage containers and Tom Lebs was also busy helping in the compound.

Randy Chase delivered the new C-16 Boiler to the railroad and Storage Chairman Rich Casford did the RLS two-step soft shoe dance and found space in the buildings to store the boiler until installation on the engine.

Jerry Roth serviced additional gate locks and station water locks. As a reminder if you open a switch or gate lock with difficulty please let the Roadmaster know and we will get it serviced.

If you stayed home to watch college football or play video games, it was your loss. FUN (work) DAYS are the place to be, outside getting your hands dirty and at the end of the day you can look back on your project and say, "Wow that looks great!"

Track inspector Pat O'Guinn did double duty and cooked hamburgers for the gang at Noon. Thanks also go to Glenn Maness who made a store run to pick up additional items for lunch. The RLS Annual Meeting started right on time at 1:00PM under the director of President Brain Stephens.

The next FUN (work) DAY will be Saturday December 14, 2019 starting at 8:00 AM. We need a Camp Cook on December 14th. This is a great way to help the club, be chef and show us what you can prepare for lunch. Contact Rich Casford rich@wmp.net or 575 756-4413 if you can help on the next workday lunch.

Rich Casford, Roadmaster

- Road 2

RLS Run Day 11-10-19



The first run day of November brought with it "Chamber of Commerce Weather", perfect for live steam railroading!

The Hunter passenger train with Bob Roberts at the throttle and Ken Mitoma covering Conductor/Brakemen duties had help at Hunter Station from Kim "Zip" Ziepkke and his Northern with Trainman Micha Carrier and the team of Richard Ronne, Matthew Ruff and Jonathan Rohrbach operating Richards mighty 4-6-2. Scott Horgan and Ken Long took care of the Hunter train duties in the afternoon.

.... Continued

(...from page 3) Five hundred and seventy eight passengers made their way around the railroad with Pat O'Guinn handling the Station Master duties for Glenn Maness as Glenn was our Operating Superintendent of the day. Freight service was well represented by Paul Quick behind his Atlantic locomotive, Ken Adamson running his Mogul.



RLS Run Day 11-24-19



Under the watchful eye of O.S. Brian Stephens our November 24th Run Day got off to a great start! Throughout the Run Day we had 35 members show up to enjoy the slightly cooler day. Along with the three passenger trains we had a good turnout of freight trains.

At Hunter Station Glenn Maness was back at his post as Station Master for the Run Day with Tiffany Love taking care of merchandise (with help from Jerry Roth) and John Gurwell at the ready with the re-rail cart.

Ken Long and Chris Neiman tended to the Station switches with Chris and Tom Lebs taking turns flagging the four track crossing.



Some of the folks out enjoying the day were Bob and Doug Chamberlain, Richard Miller, Steve Borchert, Bob Beard, Rich Casford, Dave Bunts, David Moore, Mark Spaulding, Kim Ziepkke, Ken Adamson, Mark and Sam Ferguson, Bill Phillips Charlie Kennemer, Richard Ronne, Scott Horgan, Jonathan Rohrbach, Richard Miller and David Lazarus.

Message from the Compound Supervisor\ Security Team

As I write this the weather gurus are predicting our first snow fall of the season in our local mountains. We might even get some rain down here in the upper desert areas. Along with this cooler weather will come winds and falling leaves. That will mean that some extra help will be needed on our work days to collect and bag the leaves from our compound trees. A hearty thanks to those that raked the leaves up on our last work day and made the compound look nice and tidy!

Now for some new business. Those of you that have a key to the compound also have the added responsibility to assist with compound security. These responsibilities include , but are not limited to, 1) Walking the fence line if you open the Gate 2) Turning the alarm off in the club house before opening any other buildings or container 3) Ensuring that all doors and locks are locked before you leave 4) Setting the alarm in the club house and locking up as you leave. There is a change to the way this was done in the past. You will notice that there is no longer a sign-in/sign-out book by the coffee maker. This is now accomplished digitally. When you use your code, it is supposed to be personal and not shared, you are digitally signing in/out. Every time your code is used it is making a permanent record with the date, time, and user name. This can be compared to the compound camera if necessary.

If you feel that your security code has been compromised contact a member of the security team for assistance in getting a new code. If we work together we can keep our compound and personal property stored there secure.

Security team members are: Bill Hesse, Bob Roberts and Brook Adams

- Bob Roberts

FULL HOUSE!!

STORAGE 2020

DO YOU WANT TO STORE YOUR EQUIPMENT 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: Work begins on the Noble Junction wye, before the Vandenberg Extension was built. John Noble center kneeling over switch with John Thorpe Superintendent of Motive Power standing to the right of John holding a shovel. Notice all the dirt...this is what the center of Hunter Park looked like until 2009-2010 when the park was remodeled. The Noble Junction wye was the only way to turn trains on the railroad back then. Jim



Keith's pickup truck for dirt (ballast back then) hauling in lower right.

Upper Right: The original Columbia Ave Station with Ed Cooley's beautiful Pacific with another engineer. Maybe Al Ratliff or Ron Wilkerson can remember the engineer's name. Notice the center platform shade in the left of the photo. That was shown earlier in the calendar being moved to the west end of the station. Ed Cooley contribution to RLS is used on the figure 8 track pattern, Ed machined the diamond crossing on the mainline that was the sample for the crossing on the Bunts By-Pass track.

Lower Left: First President of RLS Dr. John Creighton, with Jerry Nichols in the middle. That is Jerry's engine (a Buzz Sutch built 2-4-2 Columbia now owned by Zip Ziepk). We can thank John Creighton for changing the plans for the park remodeling to allow the Creighton Cut-Off to remain in place and placing the universal sports field on an angle behind the ball diamonds.

Lower Right: A Little Engines 4-2-2 moving up the engine lead with the mainline in the lower left corner. Compare this photo with the current engine lead and mainline and you can see how much real estate was lost with the Columbia Bridge Overpass. You can see the front RLS parking lot also in the right side of the photo. No one thought the Little Engines 4-2-2 could run at RLS due to our length of track but this engine did run and even ran over a small rattlesnake at Summit and made three snakes out of one! Perhaps Dean Willoughby will remember the engineers name?

- Rich Casford



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 _____

RLS Annual Dinner

1/04/2020, Hidden Valley Golf Club, 10 Clubhouse Drive, Norco Ca.

6:00pm Social Hour - 7:00pm Dinner

Great Train Show - Sacramento, CA January 4-5, 2020 - 10am-4pm,
Ventura, CA February 1 & 2, Costa Mesa, CA Feb 8-9. Tickets can be purchased here:
<http://greattrainshow.com/schedule/>

**Thanks to Dave Bunts, Joan Adams, and Rich Casford for the photos
and articles in the December 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

Dec 8th, Run Day (Eastbound Outside Loop)	Jan 12th, Run Day (Westbound Outside Loop)
Dec 14th: Fun/Work Day	Jan 18th: Fun/Work Day
Dec 22nd: Run Day (Eastbound Figure Eight)	Jan 26th: Run Day (Westbound Figure Eight)
January 4th: Annual Dinner 6:00pm	Feb 9th, Run Day (Eastbound 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 2019-2020 Board of Directors

Officers

President: David Bunts

Vice President: Brian Stephens

Treasurer: Joan Adams

Secretary: Rich Casford

Directors

Glenn Maness

John Gurwell

Bob Roberts

Chris Neiman