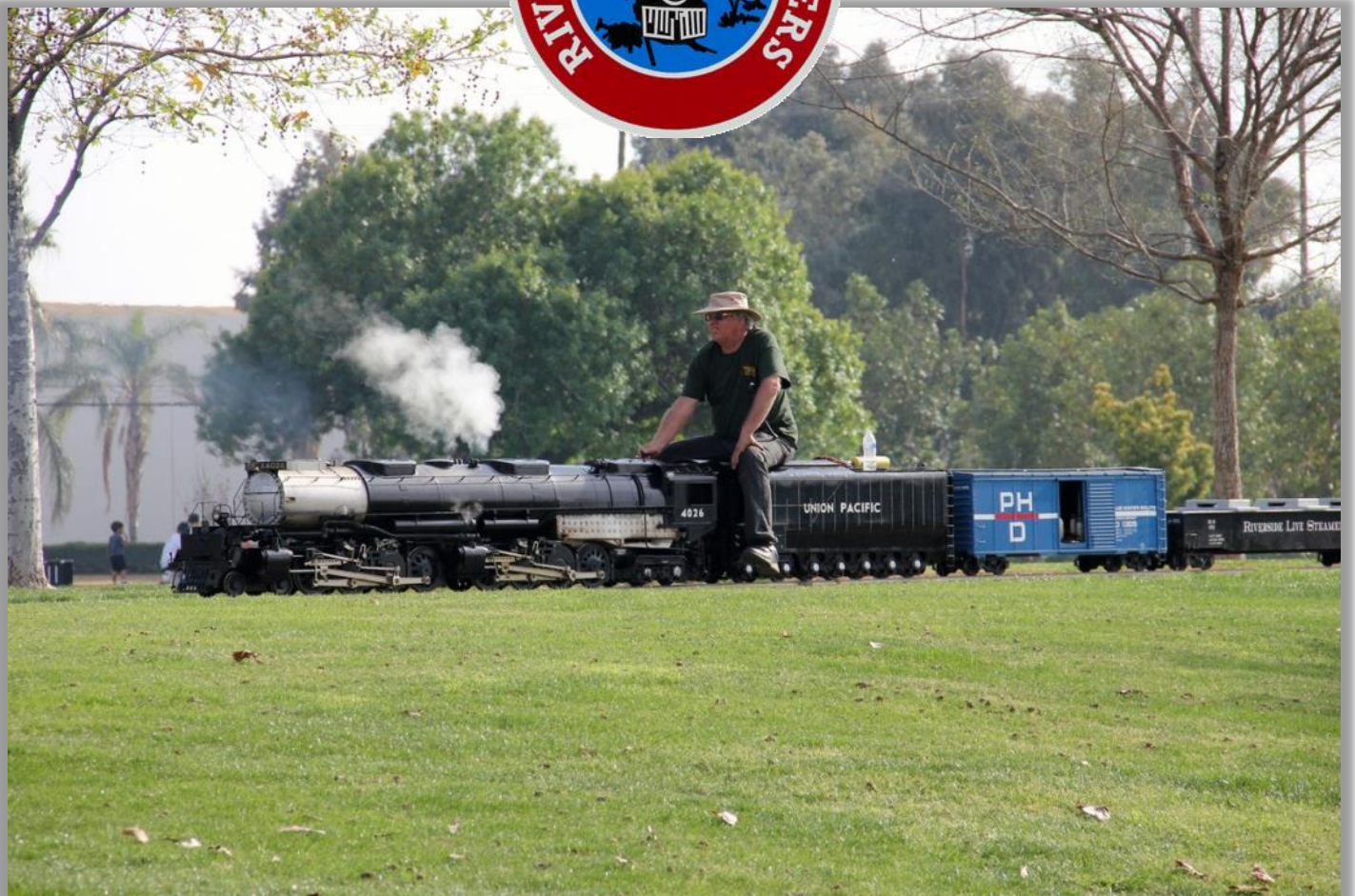


THE RLS CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS



May 2020



End of The Line

Robert "Bob" Smith passed away on April 6, 2020.

Bob was a member of RLS since 2005.

A memorial run will be planned sometime in the future at RLS in Bob's memory once COVID-19 restrictions are lifted.



President's Words Of Wisdom

Well, it appears that we are closed for another 6 weeks, at least according to the Riverside County Health Department.

The City has not yet chimed in with it's recommendations yet, but they seem to follow the County, who follows the State, which follows the Feds and the CDC...It's a massive case of follow the leader, and we are at the collective will and whim of any and /or all of them. This is just horrible, but then, catching the Covid 19 thing isn't going to be any fun either, so I'll go with missing the sights and sounds of live steam in favor of having to listen to ventilators and monitors in a hospital room.

If you are actually going into withdrawals over missing the sights and sounds is we can actually go onto our very own web-site and see the iron ponies we all like so much, along with our friends and fellow enthusiasts. This isn't quite the same, but a light fix of steam is better than nothing.

Folks, we will get through all this, the railroad will reopen and we will be back cursing stuck injectors and low steam at the bottom of the climb to Summit before too much longer. In the meanwhile, go work on your projects or at least go look at them and think about working on them.

- Dave Bunts

The County of Riverside Department of Health has extended the Riverside County Stay at Home order in line with the State of California Stay at Home order until **June 19, 2020**.

What this means for Riverside Live Steamers is that Hunter Hobby Park is still closed to our live steam train activities within the Park. Members with equipment stored in RLS buildings can access their equipment for maintenance only, no operations are allowed outside our fenced compound.

No more than 10 members at any time in the compound, with the social distancing of at least 6 feet apart. The County Health Department now requires face coverings or masks to be worn at times when you are around other people or go into a store or business. If you enter the compound, please close and lock the gate on inside to prevent the general public from entering the compound. Only RLS members are allowed at this time .

It is important that RLS Members follow the restrictions that have been placed on RLS to prevent the complete restriction of access to the compound.

We appreciate your understanding and cooperation during these difficult times for everyone.

Road 2

Rich Casford

Secretary-Roadmaster-City Liaison

Riverside Live Steamers



Along The Tracks - Rich Casford, Road 2

With the full closure of Hunter Hobby Park there has been no official RLS Member workdays, lunch gatherings or Board Meetings on the property since February 15, 2020.

That does not mean maintenance is not on-going.

A couple of projects are still in the works with a small crew of social distancing members who had started projects before the closure.

Steve Borchert and John Gurwell have been working on the new electrical upgrade in the buildings. With the COVID-19 closure this has allowed the project to move forward when it requires working overhead without people walking or sitting the engine house. Progress is being made during the closure.

Chris Neiman and Compound Supervisor Bob Roberts have been spraying the recent weed growth in the compound from the weekly rains this year.

Chris also handled the supervision of the concrete crew hired to pour the new propane cage pad next to the first propane storage unit. New Cage is on order.

Finally, CS Bob Roberts has started the construction of the switch jig cover to protect the appliance that Master Switch Builder Richard Ronne constructed to make standard RLS switches for the mainline and yard tracks. Chris Neiman assisted Bob in handling the large sheets of plywood.



All projects were performed with the new standard 6-foot social distancing and face coverings as needed when near other workers. I think we all will need to get use to our new work standards with the COVID-19 issues.

I appreciate those members who have stopped by the facilities in these past few weeks to do a security check on the property. At press time, it appears that Statewide Stay Safe at Home Act emergency rules are still in effect.

RLS remains closed until further notice from the Board of Directors of RLS and permission is granted by the City of Riverside Parks Department.

Equipment Owners Note: If you enter the property make sure to close and lock the gate on the inside so we do not have public coming into the compound. Only RLS members are allowed in the Compound at this time. Please remember the less than 10 people and 6-foot social distancing rules. If we do not follow these simple rules we will be suspended from access to the compound.

- Road 2

Spring Meets Past...

Normally your May Chronicle would be chock full of photos at stories of the April Spring Meet, unless of course Mother Nature intervened. With the current situation at hand, we called upon the services of Mrs. Road 1 (Norma Casford) to help us out with some images of past Spring Meets. Please enjoy the photos, and the descriptions provided by Road 2.

larger scanned versions of the images will be posted on the club website: <https://riversidelivesteamers.com/>

- Brook



1. Before work trucks and cordless drills at RLS, the track crew used track cars to get tools and generator to the work site. Here we see the crew at the end of the day in the Old Columbia station. You can also see the 1" mainline on the righthand side near the fence. Left to Right: Carlton Caldwell, Skip Borsuk, Former SMP Rich Petrasek, RLS 1st President Doc Creighton, Unknown member, Road 2, Fred Rout and Jerry Nichols. March 1986.

2. SP locomotives was in full force at a Spring Meet in this undated photo from the 1980's. The front two locomotives are on the former 1" mainline.



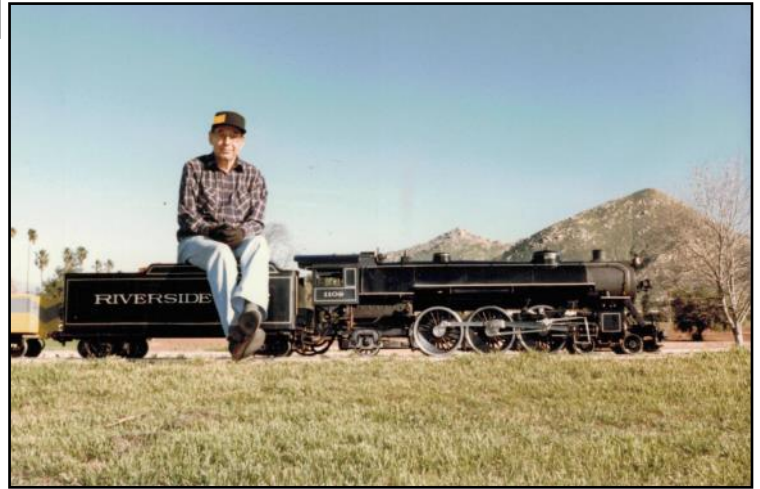
3. Allen's Valley Sprint Meet April 22, 2001, Yardmaster John Noble center bottom of photo, watching for oncoming traffic.



4. Mother's Day May 8, 1985-everyone took the mom to the trains for the day!

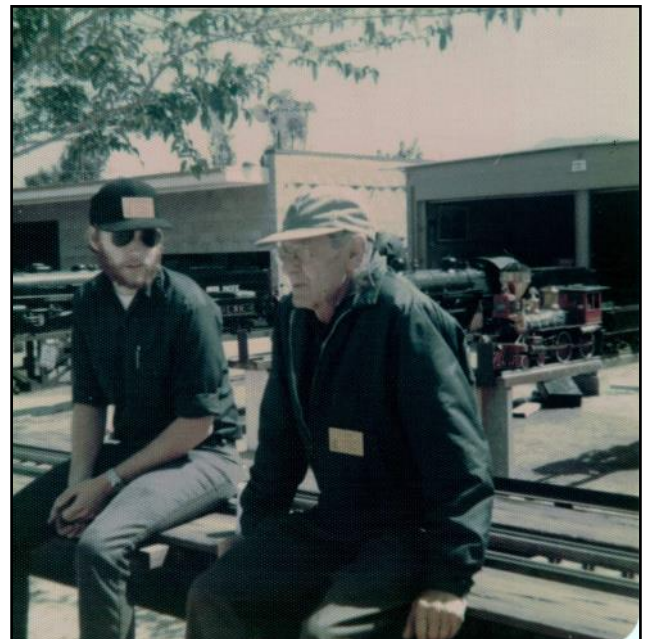
5. Ed Cooley, master designer, engine builder on his Pacific January 12, 1988.

Ed designed and built the Diamond Crossing on the figure 8 track pattern we operate over on the second run day each month.



6. Past President and resident plumber, Kenny O'Guinn, father to Pat O'Guinn

7. Future Road 2 getting schooled from the Original Road-master Bob Babb April 17, 1976.





8. Past President Doc Creighton on Hunter with SMP John Thorpe January 26, 1986

9. New cement road crossing on the Vandenberg Extension, left to right Paul Lavacot, Mike Gardner, John Noble and Phil McFadden. March 24, 2001



10. Barney Root and Ernie Wilson discuss the state of Live Steam at the April 1976 Spring Meet with the SP Caboose in the background.

11. John Noble and his SP #2500 working a long freight at the April 1980 Spring Meet. This engine has been rebuilt and is owned by ASST. SMP Larry Jongerius.

Thanks to Mrs. Road One (Norma Casford) for going through 40+ years of photo albums to find a few past Spring Meet photos.



2020 May Calendar

Who Is That?



Upper left:

Brook Adams at the throttle of the UP Big Boy.

Upper right:

Matthew Ruff on Richard Ronne's 4-6-2, Paul Quick in the red shirt on his Atlantic

Lower left:

David Lazarus works on his Pacific in the steaming bay area.

Lower right:

Scott and Lilly Horgan taking a ride around the railroad.

Railroad Social Media

Jim Kreider is asked periodically while out at the Club about information on the two Facebook Groups that he is the Administrator of. Here are the descriptions of the forums from Jim:

One group is:

Live Steam History of Southern California where of course, we talk about just that with photos, history, etc. The group description in part reads as follows; This group is dedicated to the live steam history of southern California, including photos, stories, memories, clubs, modelers, home tracks, businesses, and collectors. Please feel free to identify people, locomotives, years and places in any of the photos or posts. This is a public group so anyone on Facebook can look at it but you have to join to post.

The group is up over 600 members now. <https://www.facebook.com/groups/191280267957588/>

The other group is:

Berkshire Modelers - 1/8 Scale 2-8-4

This is a group that I started primarily to post info in regard to building the Berkshire.

However over the last 2-1/2 years the group has morphed into a site which caters to all aspects of the modern Superpower 2-8-4 and really just modern steam in general; including detail information about the prototype, both operation and hardware: current events news about the large scale models and prototype: and really any info related to the modern locomotive, but particularly the 2-8-4. Posting technical details related to modern steam locomotives also are acceptable posts. It is just a place to have fun about one of our favorite subjects.

This is also a public group. The group is up over 900 members now. I never thought that would happen!

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/745171952287158/>

Jim Kreider

“Social Distancing” doesn’t mean “Social Isolation”.

You can call, email or text your fellow members just to say “Howdy!” or find out how they are doing!



Thanks to Dave Bunts, John Gurwell, Norma Casford, Rich Casford, Jim Kreider and Joan Adams for the photos and articles in this months 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

The dates listed below are for reference. We will update the Membership when Riverside County and the city of Riverside Parks Department gives us the go ahead to restart operations.

May 10th, Run Day (Canceled)

June 14th, Run Day (Canceled)

May 16th, Fun/Work Day (Canceled)

June 20th, Fun/Work Day (to be determined)

May 26th, Run Day (Canceled)

June 28th, Run Day (to be determined)

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