

THE CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS

June 2021



Ten years ago we were waiting...

June 26th 2011 Hunter Hobby Park remodel was still six months away from completion and the Riverside Live Steamers returning to passenger service

STAY SAFE WEAR YOUR MASK WASH YOUR HANDS!



From The Cupola

Recently a close personal family friend passed away after a fall at home. She was only 62. At about the same time I received news that a long time member of Riverside Live Steamers, Lew Kader, passed away. We all want to have as much time on this earth as we can to enjoy our family and friends and the things we love to do like fishing, hang gliding or live steaming. Although we do have a few older members at RLS here are a few tips that all of us can use.

Keep emergency numbers handy

Always keep a list of emergency numbers by or in your phone.

911

Poison Control: 1-800-222-1222

Family member or friend to call in case of emergency

Healthcare providers office

Prevent falls

If you have difficulty with walking or balance, or have fallen in the past year, talk to your health care provider about a special falls risk assessment.

Ask your provider if you would benefit from an exercise program to prevent falls

If you have fallen before, or are scared of falling, think about buying a special alarm that you wear as a bracelet or necklace. Then, if you fall and can't get to the phone, you can push a button on the alarm that will call emergency services for you.

Don't rush to answer the phone. Many people fall trying to answer the phone. Either carry a cordless or cell phone or let the answering machine pick up.

When walking on smooth floors, wear non-slip footwear, such as slippers with rubber/no slip bottoms or flat, thin-soled shoes that fit well.

If you have a cane or walker, use it at all times instead of holding on to walls and furniture.

To learn more go to www.healthinaging.org

Patrick O'Guinn - President Riverside Live Steamers

There was such an overwhelming response to the May RLS safety rules review I thought it a good idea to review a few more rules.

101. Every member of the Riverside Live Steamers Inc. is responsible for safety and the enforcement of these safety rules.

201. All train movements in and out of the steaming area shall be under the jurisdiction of the Operating Superintendent/Safety Inspector.

301. Engineer. (a) Passenger Engineer Qualifications: Any member of RLS or recognized live steam club who demonstrates that he/she has the knowledge, judgment and skill to safely operate a live steam locomotive will be qualified as a Public Passenger Engineer.

Remember to review the RLS safety rules periodically.

Patrick O'Guinn - President Riverside Live Steamers



Along The Tracks

Track alignment was completed north of the Hunter Station on the outside loop area,

and switches were maintained and serviced on the May 15, 2021 Workday. In the compound the weeds were attacked by a team of energetic RLS Members. Weeds grow year-round at RLS.

The new generator was installed on the blower car. Using the blower car before each run day provides clear track of rocks, leaves and twigs from the trees.



Major new project will be started on the June Workday. The RR tie wall along the Bunts By-Pass Track towards Allen's Valley is slipping due to water flows from the irrigation system in the park. We will need many hands-on deck to help with this project. Please attend and lend a hand so no one must dig by themselves. Depending on what we find in the sub-base, the By-Pass track maybe taken out of service for a short period of time. More help the faster the project can be finished.

IMPORTANT RLS ANNOUNCEMENT:

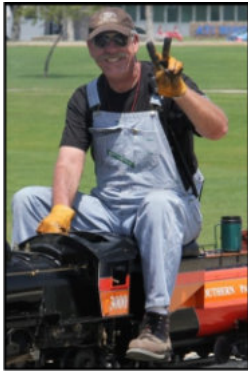
Just prior to the CDC announcing the change in mask mandates nationwide, RLS had received permission from the Park Department to allow members not to wear a mask in the compound area or while operating trains on the mainline either as engineer or train crew. The State of California has announced that mask mandate will stay in effect until June 15, 2021. RLS still has permission when outside in the compound and operating trains we do not need to wear masks. However, if you interact with the public, please put your mask back on. All other COVID-19 protocols are still in effect. Social distance when possible if you go inside, you should wear a mask, wash your hands. The most important point in all the COVID protocols is if you feel sick STAY HOME.

RLS has done a good job of maintaining the COVID protocols and we were rewarded with the Park Dept. permission to remove our masks in the compound and on the mainline.

No date set for return of Public Train rides or any RR meets this Fall. COVID restrictions are changing quickly, and we will attempt to keep the membership informed on current rules.

Plan now to join us on the June 19, 2021 Workday and Board Meeting starting at 8:00 AM for the Workday and 11:00 AM for Board meeting. All RLS members are welcome at the board meeting.

- Road 2



From the SMP

It appears that our illustrious Governor is going to declare victory over the Covid 19 virus on June 15. OK. What does that mean to us? It means we get to go back to

enjoying RLS at its best. What else does it mean to us? It means that all those people that have been locked down for the last 13 months are also free to roam all those places they have been locked out of for the last 13 months, including the miniature train rides at Hunter Park.

I was OS on the April 23rd run day, and about 1:30 took a tour of Hunter Park just to see what the world looked like. IT WAS CRAZY! There were about 150 people attending 3 youth soccer games between the Creighton Cutoff and the Straight, there were 75 people in what I assumed was a church service in the trees just east of Columbia Yard, and the playground looked like an anthill that had been kicked over with people swarming all over it. I had helped our spectacularly good looking and benevolent Roadmaster rerail a MOW car at Big Rock, and while we were working on that he mentioned that he watched several carloads of people get out of their cars in the parking lot on the south side of the park and walk towards the playground. What attracted his attention was each group had a kid stop and put a rock on the rails as they walked over it...

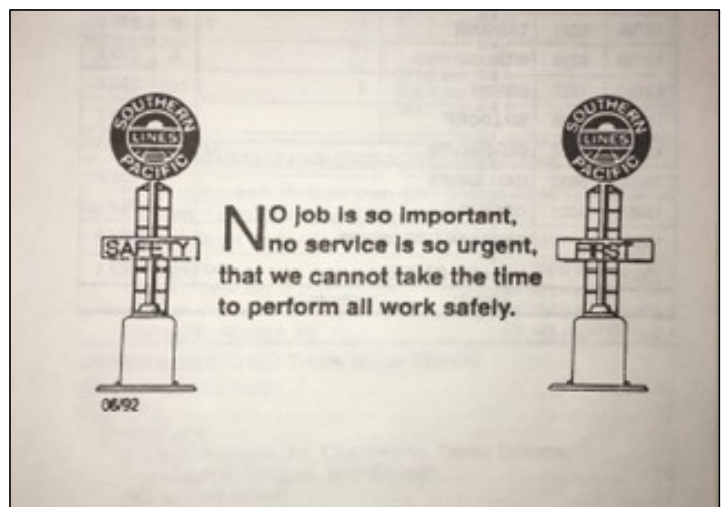
Which brings us to the reason I'm writing this. We are going to go back into service in a world that is eager to get out of the house and enjoy the freedom that the declaration of victory has given them. We have been operating in a world that has been reduced, but that is going to change. We need to pay attention once again to the operating rules of the railroad. Speed is to be no faster than what you can stop based on how far you can see. This includes any place that park users

are crossing the tracks in front of you.

Yard tracks are to be no faster than walking speed. Following distance should be 100 feet. Pay attention to hand signals given by other members on the railroad. If you've forgotten them due to a lack of use, please review them. They are a visual method of communication across distances where speech is not possible. While not part of the official rules, it is recommended that you take a radio when you leave the compound. It's nice to know when the railroad is closed for a derailment long before you end up in a line waiting for the track to reopen and discover that you're low on water. With a radio, you may have been able to stop in one of the yards and enjoyed shade and the company of your fellow railroaders around a water hose instead of sitting in the sun and sweating because of the heat and no water in the tender.

When the Governor opens the state, we are going to be swarmed with people wanting rides and by people using the park. Safety, both in running our trains and of the people using the park is our responsibility. Pay attention to what is going on with your train, the other trains on the railroad, and the great unwashed masses that are sure to be around.

The Safety Weasel



Run Day - 5/9/21

Operating Superintendent John Gurwell got his Run Day started at 8:00am with cool weather at the beginning of the day.



Ten engines out for the run day, Members in attendance were Paul Quick, Richard Miller, Gary Mocko, Tom Lebs, Mark Spaulding, Tom Brody, Sean Hagen, Steve Hagen, Scott Horgan, Gregg Casford, Bob Chamberlain Dave Bunts,



Bob Beard, Dale Chamberlain, June Chamberlain Gus Farwick, Wes Peterson, Chandler Kunz, Jim Kreider, Chris Neiman, Bill Hesse and Glen Maness.



Run Day - 5/23/21

Operating Superintendent for the day was Dave Bunts. Tom Lebs who was at the railroad at 06:35am set the switches for the Run Day's Westbound operations and cleared the grade crossings of rocks and debris.



The RoadMaster was able to run the recently upgraded blower car throughout the right-of-way clearing the track of leaves and debris.

The Run Day saw seven locomotives out on the railroad including Members and family out enjoying



the day were: Bob Beard, Jerry Roth, Brain Stevens, Tom Lebs, Paul Quick, Richard Ronne, Sean Hagen, Jonathan Rohrbach, Tom Brody, Richard Miller, Ron Wilkerson, Rich Casford, Jim Krieder, Patty Ruale, Chuck Kennemer, Jerry Blake, Gus Farwick, Mark Spaulding, Pat O'Quinn, George Bartlow, Bill Hesse and Glenn Maness.

This Month in Railroad History

June of 1869 The Senate and the House passed the "Pacific Railway Act". It was signed into law by President Abraham Lincoln on July 1, 1862. This act provided Federal government support for the building of the first transcontinental railroad, which was completed on May 10, 1869.



RLS... In the 21st Century

We are all looking forward to getting back to regular operations, there's nothing quite like the sights and sounds and smells of live steam railroading.

While we all wait to see what is going to happen later this month, don't forget to check out these online sites -

Friends of Riverside Live Steamers:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/165407238713562/>

Live Steam History of California:
<https://www.facebook.com/groups/191280267957588>

Riverside Live Steamers website:
<https://riversidelivesteamers.com/>

Final Call ...



Long Time RLS Member Paul Vener (joined May-1969) passed away Tuesday evening, May 11, 2021 after suffering a fall with head injuries at home early Monday Morning May 10, 2021.

Paul was very active in the 1970-1990 time frame at RLS and lived in Redlands. He built his own Mogul steam engine locomotive



(Photo by Watchara Phomicinda, The Press-Enterprise/SCNG)

and acquired another little engine called an "Invicta". He loved running the Invicta on weekends at the park, subsequently joining two other train clubs, Chula Vista Live Steamers and Southern California Live Steamers.



Final Call ...

I am sorry to report that word has reached us that Lew Kader passed away on Tuesday, May 18, 2021. Lew joined RLS in July 1982.



Lew was a machinist and built several steam locomotives which ran at RLS. His signature style was chrome plated smoke boxes. During one of the Hunter



Locomotive re-boiler projects, Lew purchased the old boiler shell from the club, rebuilt the boiler and then proceeded to build another Northern, of course with



a chrome smoke box!! For many of us we knew Lew as the original switch mechanism maintainer.

Years ago, we were having problems with kids throwing switches against trains. Our friends at the Chula Vista Live Steamers gave RLS a sample switch mechanism which provide positive point controls and allowed for a switch lock to be place on the switch machine



preventing floating or cross points. Lew started a program to manufacture the switch machines and replaced all the switch machines across the railroad. You can still find switch machines stamped L Kader on the top plate.



Lew also for years was the face of RLS at the front gate at our meets. He would sit outside the gate and register all the visitors and RLS members. RLS never had such great historical records of attendance as when Lew was on duty.

Lew's quite manners will be missing around the railroad.

- Rich

June Calendar "Who Is It?"



Top Left photo: Rich Casford on the tender of his 4-8-4

Right Top: Westbound traffic at Columbia Station.

Left Bottom: "El Gobernador" with safeties lifting on the transfer table.

Right Bottom: Ken Casford on the Hunter in passenger service pulling through Allen's Valley.

Thanks to Pat O'Guinn, Rich Casford, Dave Bunts, Scott Horgan 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

June 13th Run Day Eastbound

July 11th Run Day Westbound

June 19th Work Day - 8:00am to 10:30am, Board Meeting 11:00am

July 17th Work Day - 8:00am to 10:30am, Board Meeting 11:00am

June 27th Run Day Eastbound

July 25th Run Day Westbound

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.

THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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President: Pat O'Guinn
 Vice President: Dan Williams
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Director: David Bunts
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