

# *THE CHRONICLE*

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NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS



July 2021



## **Action in Allen's Valley**

**Jonathan Rohrbach brings Richard Ronne's mighty 4-6-2 into the valley as Brain Stephens enters the railroad via the Bunts Bypass**

**SAFETY FIRST**



## From The Cupola

Independence Day is almost here so it's a

good time to reflect about this great country we live in and celebrate our freedom. Remember those who defeated the most powerful nation on earth so the United States of America could mold its own destiny and where everyone has the opportunity to succeed or fail and then try again no matter who you are or where you came from. Have a Happy 4th of July.

The June 19th abbreviated workday was pretty quiet with about a dozen members appearing. The major project to shore up the bypass track retaining wall was postponed until fall. The usual cleanup around the compound took place and a little bit of track work in the park. I want to thank Tom, John, Glenn, Dan, Bob, Brook, Matt, Dave and Richard for making the trip out to Riverside to help out.

Just a reminder that summer is here so you need to take precautions on hot days. Our older members are more vulnerable to summer heat. Since you can't necessarily rely on your thirst, watch for other signs of dehydration, including infrequent urination, dark-colored urine, fatigue, confusion and dizziness. Drink fluids even if you don't feel thirsty, maybe set the timer on your phone. You might want to wear a large brimmed hat and use sun block.

### Deferred Maintenance

Before but especially after WW II the railroads began competing with the automobile, the trucking industry and airlines. So many railroads didn't have the money to maintain the infrastructure to run trains efficiently. This is known as "deferred maintenance".

At RLS we've been competing with the covid. No workdays, or abbreviated workdays, and no run days. With few members out to work on the track and no donations from the running of

public trains, the track is getting a little rough in spots. (See pic). Now that things are opening up we will need all hands on deck in the near future. Come on out and lend a hand on our first full workday in a year, July 17. Looking forward to seeing you all there.



Patrick O'Guinn - President Riverside Live Steamers

### Here's another quick review of the RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS SAFETY RULES.

103. Supervision and Authority: a. Operating Superintendent - 1. It shall be the duty of the Operating Superintendent to oversee the safe and efficient operation the railroad and all associated club facilities in accordance with the Safety and Operating Rules and make final decisions on items not covered by said rules when the occasion arises.

202. No engine shall be moved without the authorization of it's operating engineer.

221. Trains approaching any crossover shall yield the train on the right.

Review the RLS safety rules often. Happy steaming

Patrick O'Guinn - President Riverside Live Steamers





## Along The Tracks

California has started to reopen and return to activities that have been put on hold since March 2020 with the pandemic.

RLS is no different as we began to return to our regular schedule for Workdays and Board Meeting. Starting on July 17, 2021, Workday will begin at **8:00 AM to Noon**. The **Board Meeting** will start at **1:00PM** just like we used to do. We are still determining how we will handle lunch time. We will send out an email blast once the lunch feeding system is approved by the Parks Department.

**Public Train Service is still suspended due to the Pandemic at this time. We are working on a reopening plan with the City of Riverside.**

We delayed the Bunts By-Pass wall repair until Fall when it is cooler to dig.

However, we are planning to install the last switch needed for the Vandenburg Crossing that has remained disconnected since March 2020. This is a project that the Roadmaster needs at least 8 members to commit to work on the track. We need the 8 bodies to pull the old switch and load on the track cars, returning to compound, then load the new switch on track cars. Spotting the new switch requires two moves at the job site, the reason for the need of at least 8 members to work. We will not start the project unless I know we will have enough workers to complete the replacement.

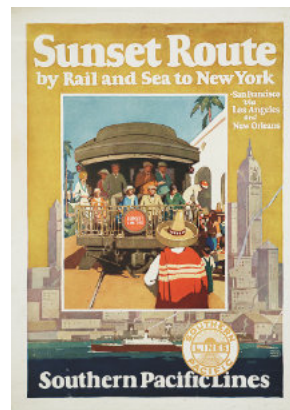
Please call me or email your availability for 9:00AM Saturday, July 17, 2021, (575) 756-4413 or email: [rich@wmp.net](mailto:rich@wmp.net) I do need a couple of members at 8:00 AM to prep the site for the pulling of the old switch. 8 members are needed to be at RLS before we can pull the switch out of the ground so as not to leave the mainline with an open hole.



Plan now to join us on Saturday, July 17<sup>th</sup> for Workday and Board Meeting. Lunch to be determined.

- **Road 2**

## This Month in Railroad History



In July 1866, congress passed a bill authorizing the Southern Pacific Railroad Company, based in San Francisco to build a southern transcontinental line from San Francisco to meet the Atlantic and Pacific Railroad Company, building westward from St. Louis.

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## **From the Compound Supervisor**

For all of you that are avid watchers of the compound cameras you will have noticed that you can no longer access them. Well, You really can you just don't have the correct address anymore.

Your user ID and password have not changed only the IP address has changed. The club has purchased a new computer and it is now installed. Along with the new computer we have switched it over to the new AT&T hot-spot which is giving us good quality viewing at this time. Just make sure you are using an updated version of Chrome, Edge, or Firefox. Type in the address <http://166.203.166.58:8209> and you will be greeted with a sign in box.

If you do not know your user name you can contact me at [c17fan@hotmail.com](mailto:c17fan@hotmail.com). Or a better way is to see me at the yard on a run day or work day. I will be happy to look it up for you.

Happy Viewing!

- Bob

## **While you are on your computer....**

Don't forget to check out these online resources:

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

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

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



## **Happy Anniversary!!**

The Riverside Live Steamers filled it's letters of incorporation and received approval on July 26, 1966.

We've got 55 years under our belt!

Here are the membership anniversaries for July:

Brian Ratliff - 44 Years  
Neal Mauer - 18 Years  
Chris Enright - 15 Years  
Chris Caldera - 9 years  
Cynthia Caldera - 9 Years  
Manny Caldera - 9 Years  
Tim Wheeler - 9 Years  
Irma Caldera - 8 Years  
Ken Mitoma - 6 Years  
Wes Peterson - 3 Years  
Kevin Zamp - 3 Years

A big "Congrats" and Thank You for your support of RLS.

## **From the Car Knocker**

As we get closer to regular operations I'd like to remind everyone on the procedures for identifying a bad order car.

If you discover an issue while running a Club owned car please go to Barney's Barn, on the North wall is a holder with Red Service Tags in it.



Take a service tag and fill out the top and bottom, tear off the bottom and stick that into the clip holder on the tag box then attach the tag to the bad orders car so that it can be clearly seen by other members or myself (attaching on or near the coupler work great). Once you've tagged it please let me know.

- Brook

## Run Day - 6/13/21

Operating Superintendent Tom Lebs was at club at 6:20am getting things ready for the Run Day.



Four engines made it out on to the railroad and the Hunter engine took a couple laps with Bob Roberts at the throttle to shake off the cobwebs.



26 members came out for the last Run Day of Spring. With warmer (hot) days ahead it was good to see everyone make it out and enjoy the railroad.



## Run Day - 6/27/21

Yours truly was Operating Superintendent for the day.

Tom Lebs cleared the grade crossings and set the switches for



eastbound figure 8. (Thanks again Tom!). Jonathan Rhorbach cleaned weeds from the right of way. Pat O'Guinn took his blower out and cleared debris from the track. Jerry Roth took down member names for the O.S. Report



Mark Spaulding was first out on the railroad, he was followed out by Sean and Steve Hagen on their 2-8-0. Brian Stephens performed some work on his engine under the shade on the East Bays.

16 members in total braved the heat for the day but the Compound never had more than 10 members at any time.

Thanks to everyone that came out and helped out. - Brook



## For Sale

Pat Phillips, wife of Bill Phillips is offering RLS Members first chance at purchasing Bills Diesel and two riding cars, along with tools and a two axle trailer. The diesel is Rail System model (Oregon) and needs some work on the fuel tank. The engine was run at Train Mountain in August 2020 just before Bill's passing (see photo).



The diesel does need some work on the fuel tank for proper operation. Last run an auxiliary tank was used to fuel the engine. The trailer comes with all the material shown in the photo, two riding cars and all the misc. tools except the Red Air Compressor shown inside the trailer

The family would like to sell all pieces as one package for \$14,000.00 or best offer. Since RLS is 100% steam, no on-track operation or steaming bay unloading will be allowed. You would need to go to one of the area tracks that allow gas powered models if you desire to test. This is a good deal with all the extra stuff and a great trailer included.

The family is hopeful that someone in the RLS membership might purchase package for a traveling engine to other railroads. The offer will be posted for 60 days before going into other publications or internet advertising. Please contact Pat Phillips at (717) 588-1211 or email [pattyakecoleman@yahoo.com](mailto:pattyakecoleman@yahoo.com)

Serious offers only please!

**Rich Casford**  
**Roadmaster-Secretary-City Liaison**  
**Riverside Live Steamers Inc**



## July Calendar

## "Who Is It?"



Top Left photo: Tom Lebs and John Gurwell welding new lock mounts

Right Top: Bob Roberts replacing the ties on the Bunts Bypass

Left Bottom: Randy Chase cuts the steel of a temporary third level ramp.

Right Bottom: Dave Bunts giving the band saw a work out.

**Thanks to Pat O'Guinn, Rich Casford 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](mailto:rockwreckrr@roadrunner.com)

## *Upcoming Important Dates*

**July 11<sup>th</sup> Run Day Westbound**

**August 8<sup>th</sup> Run Day Eastbound**

**July 17<sup>th</sup> Work Day - 8:00am to 3:00pm, Board Meeting 1:00pm**

**Aug 14<sup>th</sup> Work Day - 8:00am to 3:00pm, Board Meeting 1:00pm**

**July 25<sup>th</sup> Run Day Westbound**

**August 22<sup>nd</sup> Run Day Eastbound**

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**

### **Officers**

President: Pat O'Guinn  
Vice President: Dan Williams  
Secretary: Rich Casford  
Treasurer: Brook Adams

### **Directors**

Director: David Bunts  
Director: John Gurwell  
Director: Tom Lebs  
Director: Chris Neiman