

THE CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS



May 2023



Progress continues on the installation of the third level lift

April Work Day: New track sections being installed on and around the concrete pads for the new third level lift in David's Yard.

"Even if you're on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there."

-Will Rogers

SAFETY FIRST

Presidential Words O' Wisdom



Wello, we've done it again. Thanks to the planning and organization of our illustrious Vice President, we have had yet another Spring Meet that was a rousing success. Members from far and wide, guests from far and wide, and even lunch provided by another Live Steam organization. That was a complete surprise to our Meet Chairman when LALS arrived and provided sandwiches to any who wanted one. The breakfasts were a hit from what I heard, I was unable to make it out early enough to actually taste test the work of our chef of the weekend, Mr. Dan Williams. Good job to everyone who participated and even a bigger thanks to those who assisted wherever it was needed. Our organization seems to do a good job of making the Meets and enjoyable time for everyone. I strongly urge you all to read the re-cap by Bill published in this fine bit of printed matter.

I'm sure that you all noticed that David's Yard is undergoing a major revamp, driven in part by the Roadmaster trying to get some more yard trackage in. It also has seen some changes with the footings for the third level lift being put in before the meet. I want to thank Bob Roberts, Brook Adams and Chris Neiman for prepping the area for the concrete to go in, and then the massive work crew we had on the workday before the meet who struggled mightily to get the tracks back into some sort of operational state. Apologies to Mr. Mocko, who graciously allowed us to leave his cars in the Noble Quick building landlocked for the time being. We will get the track back in Gary, I promise.

The summer is coming, the heat is increasing, and it isn't too early to warn you-all. Pay attention to yourself and

your fellow club members during the heat. Heat can do bad things to us all, so watch for the signs in yourself and others. The best part is we have a couple of months before it really gets bad.

- Dave Bunts, President



Night Run

Saturday May 6th is our first RLS night run of the year.

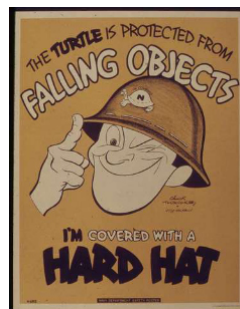
If you haven't experienced it before it really is a different experience running and riding the railroad in the dark.

Operating Headlights and Flashing Rear-End devices are required.

Come on out and enjoy the railroad in the cool of the evening!



Heads Up!!



There are several projects under way in and around the Noble Quick Building. If you haven't been out in awhile please keep an eye on your surroundings and watch your step!!



Special Events Recap...

YUCAIPA HIGH SCHOOL ENGINEERING

FIELD TRIPS

Ok!!! I am not a writer nor do I have all of the Hot Air that our President has, but I'm going to give it a go anyway, so bear with me!!!!

As the membership knows, I asked the RLS Board if I could set up a Special Events Committee. We did it and it consists of five RLS members. With many conversations with the committee members and a lot of late-night chats with Brook Adams, we came up with ideas and solutions.

One of the goals that the faculty asked, could we convey to the students what it is like in the outside world in a corporate setting.

After meeting several times with the students from Yucaipa High School, and getting their questions and answering them in a corporate setting, on November 15, 2022, we hosted the Yucaipa High School Engineering Students. Thirteen RLS members helped to bring this event to reality. Four faculty members from Yucaipa, one visiting faculty member from Colton, and one from Bloomington attended. The 16 students from Yucaipa High were the leaders of their groups and were out to do a video and slide show to help promote their Science and Engineering Fair.

We started to gather our demonstrations on Monday for the event on Tuesday. Tuesday morning, I opened up a little before 07:00 am and started setting up. As other RLS members were arriving to help set up their demonstrations, I had to leave to meet up with the students and faculty members at a Forging Plant for a tour. Brook took over and got everything done before I got back.

The students and faculty got to the

club a little after 11:00 am. We talked about safety and then started to show them around and teach them about the engines.



We had several steam locomotives out to show progression and advancements of steam engineering. Brook Adams got the boiler cut out and ready for display. We spoke about the different running gear and how the engines make their power. Jim Wood and Bill Hesse displayed their stationery and traction engines. Glenn Maness had his vertical boiler engine out. We presented history, blue prints, patterns, castings, and machining. I was surprised that the students had never seen actual blue prints. Sean Hagen as engineer with Tom Crue and Richard Miller as brakeman ran passenger service



All in all, the event went very well. The faculty members were very impressed by what we did and the students asked some really good questions.

ENGINEERING FAIR

On March 8, 2023, RLS members got together again to put on the actual Engineering Fair. We started getting our displays ready for set up on Tuesday for Wednesday's Fair. Brook

Adams set up the boiler and spoke about it. I talked about the mechanical parts, running gear and how the power gets to the drivers. Jim Wood brought his tractor and other goodies. Bill Hesse brought his stationary equipment and other items of interest. Jim Krieder and Dean Willoughby talked about history, castings, patterns, blue prints, and machining. Dave Bunts was our time keeper and crowd controller. He would guide students to their next class. John Gurwell provided needed security and re-railing as needed. Richard Ronnie fired up his Pacific for passenger service with Chris Neiman front end brakeman with Tom Crue and Bob Roberts doing double duty as rear brakeman and photography. Unable to make it but allowing us to use their equipment for display was Tom Brody and Jonathan Rohrbach.



The event started about 09:15am with 47 students, 2 faculty members from Yucaipa High, plus the bus driver who was also impressed by what we were doing, and one visiting faculty member each from Colton and Bloomington. With a quick safety talk, everyone got into groups, and were welcomed to RLS. We sent all the different groups to their sections and started at 09:30am. The students moved exceptionally well between stations.

We set up the students into five groups. They then went to the five different sections to discuss and were taught about the various displays and demonstrations. Each demonstration lasted about 45 minutes. This gave us time to talk to the students, and them time to ask us questions about what we talked about. We ended about 1:00pm to a pizza lunch. After their lunch the faculty members had the students help

clean up the compound, WOW!!! That was Great.



The Group had to leave by 2:15pm to get back to the school but after all the clean-up was done, we still had time to chat with the students and answer questions. Yes, we did get some really good questions so I know they were paying attention. This was and is a Great Group of Students.

I believe that we did make an impact and gave them quite a bit of knowledge for their future. I did receive quite a lot of Thank You's from the students and of course the faculty members. I hope all that helped got the same.

On another note: This is something that can't be done by one person. RLS is a unique organization and should be proud of accomplishments like this. I don't know of another organization that could have pulled off an event like this and be so professional about it. Although RLS members had basically an assigned place to be, if someone saw that they were needed somewhere else, they just DID IT. I want to thank all the people that supported, helped, and gave me advise to bring these events to reality. I could not have done this without you!

- Randy Chase

Riverside Live Steamers
Special Events Committee

SAFETY FIRST

Spring Meet

The RLS spring meet had the best turn out we've seen since the pandemic. Beginning early on Thursday when Dean Willoughby arrived to prepare his Northern, and Steve Borchert set up his RV to provide security for the compound, the meet was fully under way by evening.



Members and guests got listed together, but in all there were over 150 names on the sign in sheets for the 4 days of the meet. Undoubtedly we missed a few. The first 3 locomotives on the list were 8 coupled drivers. It was hard to keep track of how many Northerns and Berkshires there were running around out there. Smaller locomotives from verticals to Pacific's were well represented.



By Friday afternoon, all the steaming bays were full. Our thanks go to Scott Horgan for performing several boiler inspections as members readied their trains for the meet. Again, several members stepped up to assist in unloading and helping visitors set up in the steaming bays. Activities slowed a bit in the afternoon when the outside temperature broke 100. Fortunately, some light clouds kept it down to a comfortable 90 on Saturday and Sunday.

We had guests from as far away as Michigan, Kentucky, Oregon, Arizona

and Nevada including a group from the 'Blueberry Railroad and Farm' in Geneva, Ohio led by owner Michael Ureich. Of course, there were representatives from all the California tracks from Chula Vista to Ridgecrest.

Breakfast was prepared and served by master chefs Dan Williams and Mark Spaulding. Several early arrivals were willing to lend a hand to see that everyone was well fed. As a special treat for breakfast, we received a donation of fresh, homemade, sausage from Robert Chamberlain.



As a complete surprise, Martha Figueroa from the Los Angeles Live Steamers showed up on Saturday with submarine sandwiches and fruit salad for everyone. We're all invited to the LALS spring meet on May 26-29. See their web site for details.

To remind us that STEAM isn't just for railroaders, Garibalde Figueroa brought out a beautiful little steam tractor to demonstrate in the valley.



Richard Weathersbee entertained the passing trains in Allen's valley dressed as a 19th century hold up man while riding a horse of rather dubious pedigree. Rumor has it that he'd held up so many of the competing stage lines that he'd put them out of business before the meet. Not a single stage coach was seen in the park the entire weekend.



Only a few minor derails interrupted the activities, that were quickly resolved by John Gurwell and a pack of volunteers. We always try to stage a realistic derailment or two to entertain our guests. Besides, we need something for the track gangs to do on the next work day now that it's warm enough to play outside.

Sunday, as usual, turned in to a regular run day at 10 O'clock as guests were busy in the compound loading up for the trip home. We broke with tradition when we allowed a birthday party that had been rescheduled when we canceled the run on Easter Sunday, hosted by Doug Prescott. Even though the OS had neglected to arrange for a Hunter engineer, a few phone calls saw three engineers and crews ready to run. At times there were as many as four passenger trains in operation as members stepped in to handle the 500+ public riders. On a rare occasion that Marty Berg was unavailable, Gail Woodward stepped in to handle the higher than average pedestrian traffic at the flag crossing. There was little shortage of brakemen and helpers for Glenn at the Station.

-Bill Hesse

Happy Anniversary!

Here are the membership anniversaries for May 2023

	Years
James Alves	45
Dennis Cascarelli	43
Randy Chase	43
James Keith	35
Scott Horgan	26
Scott Lewis	20
Thomas Fagen	10
Jon Vatani	10
Marty Berg	10
Jack Berg	10
Michael Newlon	09
Doug Prescott	09
Peggy Borchert	07
Chandler Kunz	05
Anthony McBride	01

What's Happening...

Southern California Railway Museum:

Antique Truck Show

May 6th, 2023

For more Information:

<https://socalrailway.org/scrm-events/antique-truck-show/>

Los Angeles Live Steamers Spring Meet:

May 26th, 27th 28th & 29th

For more information:

<https://lalsrm.org/save-the-date/>

Cumbres and Toltec

Memorial day weekend special:
Chama Express May 27 & 28

For more info:

<https://cumbrestoltec.com/schedule/>

May Calendar "Where is it?"



The photo comes from the Southern California Historical Society and as labeled it shows Southern Pacific Locomotive #1277 rolling through a citrus grove. However in the SP rosters, #1277 was a piston valve 0-6-0 switcher locomotive of the S-12 class. None of the S.P. slide valve engines were numbered in the 1200's

There is a chance that this is a locomotive from the San Pedro, Los Angeles, and Salt Lake Railroad which also ran through downtown Riverside.

Thanks to Dave Bunts, Randy Chase and Bill Hesse 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: editor@rlsrr.com

Upcoming Important Dates

May 6th Night Run - No Public Trains

May 28th Run Day Westbound

May 14th Run Day Westbound

June 11th Run Day Eastbound

May 20th Work Day 8:00am to 3:00pm, Board Meeting 1:00pm

June 17th Work Day 8:00am to 3:00pm, Board Meeting 1:00pm

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P.O. Box 5512, Riverside, CA, 92517.

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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