

THE CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS



December 2023



At the Station

Jonathan Chase, Randy Chase double head as Jonathan Rorhbach prepares to leave the station with his passengers
(Photo courtesy of Chris Neiman)

SAFETY FIRST



It's A Hobby...

The results of the November Board of Directors election were Bob Roberts, Wes Peterson, Richard Ronne, Brook Adams.

I want to take a moment thank the outgoing board members Jonathan Rorhbach, Kevin Zamp, Mark Spaulding and Bill Hesse for all their work on keeping our railroad operations rolling smoothly. Also a big thanks to David Bunts. As many of you know (and if not, you will now) Dave has stepped down from the Board. As he stated in his President's message last month he is soon to be off to the wilderness that is the Santa Catalina Mountains of Arizona. Dave will be sticking around a bit to get the third level hoist project completed but after that he will be Project Manager of his place in AZ. After some discussion the nominee that placed 5th in voting, Tom Crue, was selected by the Board to fill the remainder of Dave's term.

Your 2023-2024 Board of Directors are:

President – Brook Adams
Vice President – Tom Crue
Secretary – Bob Roberts
Treasurer – Randy Chase
Director – John Gurwell
Director – Chris Neiman
Director – Wes Peterson
Director – Richard Ronne

Just a recap of 2023 Projects on going and completed: Camera system finalization, Quick Noble 3rd level and track changes in Davids yard, wood yard sign replacement. Rolling door spring replacement on Babb's building, tie wall along the Bunts Bypass, Club house plumbing and cabinet retrofit.

RLS also hosted the Yucaipa High School engineering classes' field trip, we had our first City Lunch and Childhood Cancer Run since the COVID lock-down in 2020, RLS also had their first Vendor Appreciation evening run. The club was part of the City's Volunteer Barbecue in July and we had our first Saturday "Old

Boys Run". All this *plus* our regular run days, night runs, work days, Spring and Fall meets. Thanks to every member that made all this happen, we had a busy year.

See you out on the railroad!

- Brook

Membership Directory Update...

The 2024 membership renewal/roster forms have begun mailing out.

We will be publishing a Membership Directory this year. Make sure to update your info and get it mailed in to the Club as soon as you can.



The Board will be updating the Brakeman and Hunter Engineer rosters in this years Directory. Brakeman and Engineers please watch for upcoming requests on your status and if you wish to remain on the respective rosters boards.

Thanks to all the members that have provided photos and articles for the Chron throughout the year!

- Brook

Wishing everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays and the hope of a great 2024!





Along the tracks

The switch replacement program continued Saturday, November 18th with the change out of Columbia

Yard CY-6 Switch. The track crew is getting quite adapt for installations as we had the track tied back together by 10:30. Richard Ronne is building our replacement switches and the switch fits like a glove in the track structure.

Replacing these mainline switches before they wear out prevents any track issues during our run days.

Work also continued in the compound on several projects and general clean up. Tom Lebs was the chef for the day, providing lunch to the workers at Noon and the Annual Meeting started at 1:00 PM with new directors and officers elected and appointed, (more details in the Chronicle).

The relay switch will not go to waste as they are being used in yard service in the realignment of David's Yard for the installation of the third level lift.

December workday on Saturday December 16th will see the track work move back to David's Yard to continue the alignment work needed for the third level lift installation.

Bill Hesse will be our chef providing the lunch for the workers at Noon in December. The board meeting will be held starting at 1 PM. Come out and meet your new officers and directors.

If you are interested in future dates to help with the lunch, please let me know at rich@wmp.net or (575) 756-4413. The Club pays for the groceries, so we just need a cook.

Looking forward to seeing you at the Railroad on Saturday, December 16th starting at 8:00 am.

- Rich Casford, Roadmaster

STORAGE BUILDINGS ARE FULL!

The RLS Storage buildings are full so please do not bring any equipment out to put in the buildings if you see an open track. Every track is rented at this time. If you need storage, please let me know so I can put you on the waiting list. We will have some limited engine storage available in 2024.

The RLS Board of Directors adjusted the storage rates for 2024.

Locomotive tracks: \$12.00 per foot per year. (transfer table access)

Floor tracks in Noble Quick Building: \$7.00 per foot per foot

Floor tracks in Babb's Building and Barney Barn: \$5.00 per foot

Shelf tracks via bridge: \$5.00 per foot

Those members who do have stored equipment at RLS will be receiving their storage invoice soon. I will be making some small adjustments in track assignments to use every spare inch of track space.

- Rich Casford, Storage Manager

RLS Annual Dinner

The 2024 RLS annual Dinner will be held Sunday Jan 7th, 2024 at Habanero Restaurant/951 Event Center at 2472 University Ave., Riverside.

\$25.00 per person, social hour starting at 5:30pm, chicken fajitas, cheese enchiladas, rice & beans, garden salad, chips and salsa

Use the registration form in this months Chron to get your reservation in before the December 23rd deadline!

GOOD OLD BOY'S RUN And Special event

Hello All R.L.S. Members and Guest,

Hopefully I can Beat the President to the punch and get this article in before him!!! Hummmm What do you think?

Hope everyone had a Great Thanksgiving!!! As special events coordinator I hosted the Yucapia High School S.T.E.M. students on a field trip to Sybridge Technologies a High Precision plastics injection facility Wednesday November 29 that went very well, I got many very good questions. Great group of students. Why do I bring this up? Because, the students see me as being and associated with Riverside Live Steamers not as a Business Owner. So, we R.L.S. members make an impact on our young and older people in ways we don't even realize. Thank you again for all your support in helping me and our Special Events Team in helping to educate people. Remember we do make an impact in many people's life that we may not even know.

Ok, Good Old Boy's and yes Ladies Run November 05, 2023. Weather was fantastic to warm and back to great for our first Good Old Boy's Run, I had to ask a higher authority for the good weather which he did provide us. We had about 33 present I may have missed a few members, guests, and families out for the run.



Everyone had a great time I got No complaints. We had B.S'ers "Bench Steamers" if you didn't already know, members out running and teaching other members how to run their engines, others worked on equipment, and just a relaxing time that we have been missing. I ordered

up Marcello's Pizza for 12:30pm lunch and Patty Ruyle (Jim Kreider's sister) made a fantastic out of this world Pasta Salad. We ate in the club house and talked it was great. I have not seen this in a long time at R.L.S. I had many members tell me how they enjoyed the day not being under pressure.



That is what we are trying to bring back to the club. After Covid B.S. in this case NOT "Bench Steamers" we seem to have lost the Brotherhood of what we do. We are all part of one large R.L.S. family and need to get back together again.

Please reach out to your Special Events Committee let us know what you would like to do or see at the club. We have several plans on the table right now on events to do with the club but to hear from our membership helps us to make better decisions for the club.

Watch out for more, Good Old Boy's Runs, Night Runs, more off Run Day Runs, and of course special runs for the Schools, Handicap, and Cancer Kids. I know that all these things bring a lot of joy to our membership and pride knowing that you can and are involved. Also, we have our annual dinner coming up January 7, 2024 I'm planning on being there and I hope to see you there as well. It will give you a good chance to talk to us about maybe ideas for what we can do or improve things that we already do at the club.

Again, I want to thank all the R.L.S. Family for supporting your Special Events Committee and Helping us as a club to move forward and be the leader in the Live Steam Hobby.

Let's get back to Fun Days!!!

Randy Chase
Riverside Live Steamers,
Special Events Committee and Treasurer

Run Day November 12th

Our first run day in November was, as Rich Casford like to say, “a Chamber of Commerce weather day”. Beautiful skies, cool in the morning and only just breaking 83 degrees by 1:30pm.

Mark Spaulding was the O.S. Of the day with Westbound outside loop the railroad operations. The Station lines were light in the morning but picked up a bit noon. The crew at the Station were Station Master Glenn Maness, Tiffany Love at Merchandise with a bit of help from Jerry Roth, Marty Berg at the four track crossing, station switch tending was covered by Tom Crue and Chris Neiman.

Chris and Tom decided take care of some right-of-way work and installed one of the replacement yard signs for the station.



Hunter passenger service was covered by engineer Brook Adams and Brakeman Jim Wood with Engineer Chris Neiman and Brakeman Tom Crue taking over for the afternoon shift. Helping out all day with passenger service only taking a break to run the Birthday party train were Sean Hagen and Anthony McBride.

Out on the railroad for the day were Richard Ronne on his Pacific, Richard Miller running #573, Wes Peterson and Sierra Cacace running the Nevada Western 2-6-0.

Run Day November 26th

The second Run Day in November was superb for Live Steam in the park. No one, I mean no one should have been decorating Christmas trees, hanging outdoor lights from their eaves, or worse... out shopping in the mad dash Black Friday aftermath if Live Steam is in your life! This was one of the best days ever to

visit the compound, grab a doughnut, sip some coffee, and have a look at the kitchen before firing up!

But in case you missed out... here is the quick overview. Rail operations were configured for West Bound Figure Eight. This is an engineer favorite due, in part, from the uphill run between Noble Junction and Vandenberg Junction. Every engineer has to find that right balance between more fuel and more throttle without slipping the drivers up the grade. The best part is... you get to do it twice on a single run!

OS duties were performed by Chris Neiman. The shift started with two dozen doughnuts, a bag of donut holes, and some fresh brewed Folgers for all arriving train crews. What really hit the spot was the aroma of homemade chocolate fudge brownies created by Ms. Diane Prescott. The platter lasted less than an hour, but the effects lasted all day! Thank you, Diane!!!

The temperature started about 47° F with sunny and clear skies when Engineer Sean Hagen headed east down the engine lead on #733 with Anthony McBride as his brakeman. Consolidation #733 completed one round trip before the #5057 Northern operated by RLS Club Secretary Bob Roberts was out the gate with VP Tom Crue as his brakeman. The Roberts/Crue train crew (yeah, that sounds funny) worked the first shift with Jonathon Rohrbach and Kevin Zamp taking over second shift. Tiffany Love operated both the 5057 and then the 733 for a few laps midday while Paul Lucero assisted boarding passengers early with Tom Crue. Together, both trains serviced 552 passengers at Hunter Station under the watchful eye of Station Master Glenn Maness and assisted by Marty Berg and Bill Hesse.



Jonathon and Randy Chase double-headed the longest freight train during the day on the #3520 2-6-2 and the #3003 4-4-2 transporting out-of-service passenger



cars along with several box car units. Cameron McMonigle was the brakeman. The #762 Berkshire also moved about a dozen freight cars around the railroad with the train crew of Jim Kreider/Bob Chamberlin/Richard Ronne rotating operating positions throughout their shift. The #573 2-6-0 Mogul completed a round trip with Richard Miller at the cab.



Two locomotives received regular maintenance at the eastern steaming bays including Brian Stephen's #779 Berkshire and Doug Prescott's #1401 Pacific. SMP Scotty Horgan assisted as necessary. It was a busy day on the rails with 25 members in attendance and 3 guests. Afternoon highs reached 64° F as clouds rolled in from the west. It wasn't too hot and it wasn't too cold. Like I said... it was a SUPERB DAY for Live Steam!

- Director Chris Neiman

Board Meeting 11/18/23

Board actions from the meeting of the 26th

The Board accepted the resignation of Superintendent of Motive Power David Bunts and appointed Scott Horgan to the position of SMP, Dave will stay on as Assistant to the SMP.

The Board approved Jonathan Rorhbach as Hunter Engineer with his seniority retro-active to January.

Clubhouse plumbing project wrap-up

At the November Board meeting Treasurer Randy Chase shared that the total cost to the Club for the plumbing and cabinet work in the clubhouse was just a little over \$86.00 thanks to the generosity of the following members:

<i>Bill Hesse</i>	<i>Randy Chase</i>
<i>Bob Roberts</i>	<i>Jonathan Chase</i>
<i>Ken Mitsch</i>	<i>Doug Sifter</i>
<i>Steve Borchert</i>	<i>Dean Willoughby</i>
<i>Tom Brody</i>	<i>Chris Neiman</i>
<i>Tiffany Love</i>	<i>Dan Williams</i>
<i>John Gurwell</i>	
<i>Arlene and Robert Butler</i>	

Your cash, labor and time donations enabled this project to be completed quickly and with the minimal financial impact on the club. Thank you!!

Calendars Are In!

The 2024 RLS Calendars are in and they are \$16.00



I have been asked about a larger format (22.5" x 14.5" opened) calendar. If you are interested let me know and how many before December 20th at editor@rlsrr.com

This is a special order not being purchased by the Club. The price of the calendars will be dependent on the number ordered. Once I have a quantity I can let everyone know the cost from Vista Print.

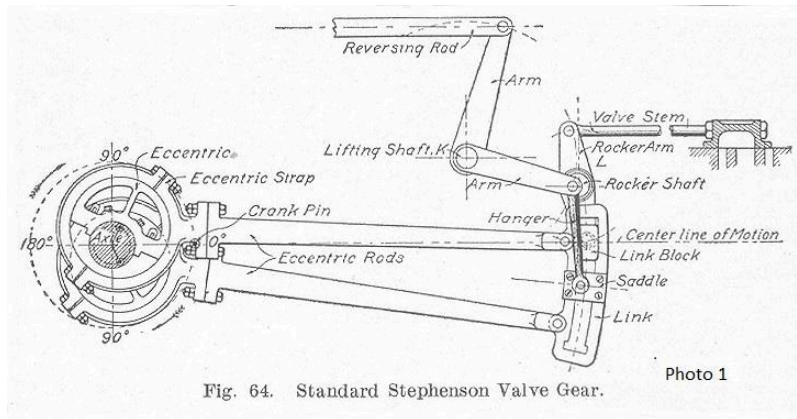
**The deadline will be 3:00pm December 20th
- you snooze, you lose!**

The Work Bench

In the May 2022 issue of the Chron, Dan Williams provided an article documenting his work on the Clubs C16 locomotive's valve linkage.

This month, Dan has sent in the follow-up to his first article (Thanks again Dan!)

Milling the C16 Valve Links

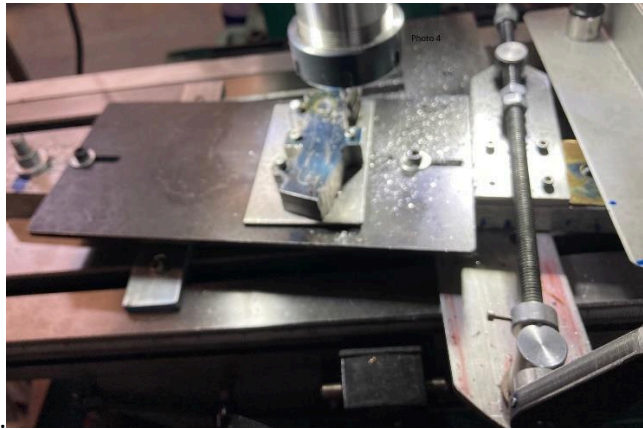


After removing the valve links, measurements were taken to determine the amount of wear. The original width of the link, where the link block travels was .4375. The bottom of the link was .448 and the top of the link was .475. The blocks were very worn.

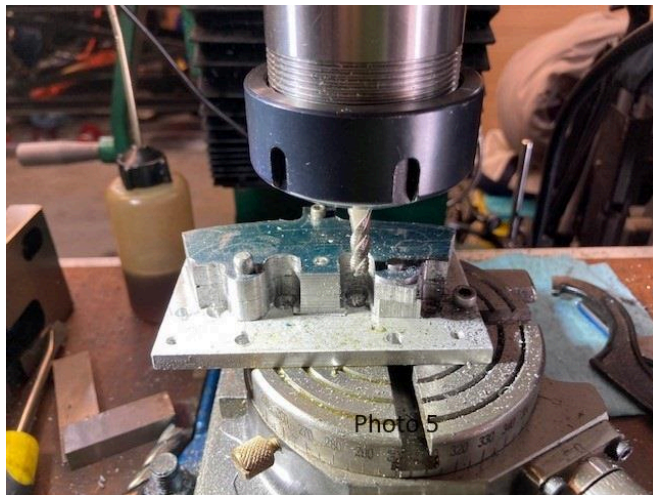
Not having drawing to go by, I decided to use the worn links to get the spacing of the bolt hole and the overall dimensions of the link, by tracing the old links. Photo 1 and 2.



The new links are made from 5/16 tool steel, which I later hardened. I put the two blanks together, so that both links would be the same. After removing the excess material on the band saw, I used a jig I had made for machining the links for my ten-wheeler, to make all the radius cuts on the mill. The link slot for the link blocks is an 8-inch radius. Photo 3 and 4



To get the round sections where the pins go that connect to the eccentric rods, I use a rotary table to mill the round sections Photo 5.



I made two sets of links block, one set was just like the original set, that is slotted. I made another set that can be easily replaced with an Allen screw. The original link blocks were round rather than square. I decided to keep with round blocks. Photo 6 shows the complete valve gear with the link blocks.

SAFETY FIRST

Images from the Chron and more are on our
Website at:
<https://riversidelivesteamers.com/>

December Calendar “Who is it (1984 Version)?”



Left: John Noble works on a switch (the current location of the cross-over) with Doc Creighton looking on.

Center Right: in the foreground Brain Ratliff adds water to the tender of Fred Rout's Hudson.

Lower Right: Station Master Glenn Maness is seen giving the safety speech prior to the Hunter train leaving the station.

Thanks to Rich Casford, Randy Chase, Jim Wood, Chris Neiman, Mark Spaulding and Dan Williams 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

**Dec 10th Run Day Eastbound
Outside Loop**

**Dec 16th Work/Fun Day 8:00am to
3:00pm, Board Meeting 1:00pm**

**Dec 24th Run Day Eastbound
Figure Eight**

Jan 1st Member Run (no Public)

**Jan 14th, Run Day Westbound
Outside loop**

**Dec 16th Work/Fun Day 8:00am to
3:00pm, Board Meeting 1:00pm**

**Jan 28th Run Day Westbound
Figure Eight**

The R.L.S. Chronicle is published by The Riverside Live Steamers, Inc.,
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

Officers

President: Brook Adams

Vice President: Tom Crue

Secretary: Bob Roberts

Treasurer: Randy Chase

Directors

Director: John Gurwell

Director: Chris Neiman

Director: Wes Peterson

Director: Richard Ronne

SAFETY FIRST



R.L.S. ANNUAL DINNER

Sunday January 7, 2024

Habanero Restaurant

951 Event Center (right next door)

2472 University Ave

Riverside, CA 92507

6:00PM

Please return the form below. \$25.00 per person. NO WALK-INS ALLOWED

There will be door prizes, 50/25/25 cash drawing, videos, awards.

Social Hour at 5:30PM

Garden Salad Chips and Salsa

Chicken Fajitas, Cheese Enchiladas, Rice & Beans

We need to have confirmed reservations and payment by **December 23, 2023.**

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 \$25.00 per person - Name: _____

2. Guest/ Spouse \$25.00 per person - Name: _____