

# *THE CHRONICLE*

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NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS



September 2023



## **Steaming up**

**A shot of the steaming bays on the morning of August 13th**

Randy Chase and Tom Crue discuss the fine points railroading while Doug Prescott readies his 4-6-2 and Jonathan Rorhbach moves his loco to a steaming bay.

**SAFETY FIRST**

## Presidential Words O' Wisdom



Here it is again – time for another awe inspiring and uplifting message from the President. I would strongly suggest that you take that last statement with about half a pound of salt. It isn't the Board of Directors that is awe inspiring. It's the club members who come out and make RLS run like it has been. Marty Berg at the 4 track crossing making sure that the pedestrians don't go darting front of our trains, Jim Wood is a constant and welcome addition to the Hunter consist on an exceedingly regular basis, Glen Maness, THE Station Master, Tiffany Love adding that special Goth look to the merchandise sales.

These are the folks who are awe inspiring. These folks don't get to blow a steam whistle, they don't get to experience the joy of pulling a throttle open, or the agony when the engine goes off road because of an unseen rock. But they do add immeasurably to the overall feel of RLS. This is a place that just oozes camaraderie and welcome to all who happen by. I really hope that this attitude gets passed on to the up and coming Junior Members. It's up to us old timers to help guide the new.

Last but not least – the heat is upon us. Watch yourself and the people around you for signs of heat related maladies. Very few of us are young enough to bounce back quickly from that kind of health problem...

Best regards,  
- Dave

**It's just  
around the  
corner...**



The weather starts to cool, the leaves start to turn colors and the days are a little shorter than they were a month ago, all off this means it's almost time for the 2023 **R.L.S. Fall Meet!!**

This year the Fall Meet will be October 20<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. Vice President and Meet Chairman Bill Hesse will once again need as much help as we can give him to make everything run smoothly. As the Roadmaster has pointed out we have only two work days before the Meet to get things ready, come on out to the work days and help get everything ready for the Fall Meet.

### **VOTE Elections are soon...**

This month the Board will start actively looking for nominees.

At the October Board meeting, the Board will approve the nominee list, ballots and nominee info will go out the first of November

At the November Board meeting, the ballots will be tallied with newly elected Board members stepping in as the outgoing members step down.

The outgoing Board members (Spaulding, Hesse, Zamp and Rhorbach) will be leaving vacancies in the Vice President and Secretary positions. Being a Board member gives you a unique look at what it takes to operate our railroad.

If you are interested in running for the 2023-2024 RLS Board contact club Secretary Mark Spaulding or any Board member.



## Along the tracks...

A very small track crew (3 members!) connected track D

into the car lead in David's Yard Saturday August 19, 2023. This was a temporary track alignment while we wait for new switches to be installed on the mainline. Like any railroad, as new switches with steel frogs are installed on mainline track, the old switches are re-purposed for yard service.

Another small group of members (4 members!) started the remodeling work in the engine house for the upcoming plumbing replacement. We have over 50 years of service from the first installation!

A few other small projects were completed around the compound and the track was inspected for the next Run Day (**update: since Run Day August 27<sup>th</sup> was canceled, the track will need to be cleared of leaves and pine needles for the September 10<sup>th</sup> Run Day**).

Lunch was served by our own Chef Chris Enright & family. The Enright's will be serving September lunch as well.

I realize in the summer months people are busy with vacations and the weather is sometimes toasty, however we do need your help in maintaining the railroad and facilities. Consider what you can do for RLS, our next workday is September 16<sup>th</sup>, and the Fall Meet is October 20-21-22. We also need brakeman on the Run Days. Our public trains are how we pay the rent for the wonderful railroad we call the Riverside Live Steamers!!

Come out and support your railroad. Everyone loves to operate trains and we can all have as much fun on the workdays improving the railroad.

- Road 2

Rich Casford, Roadmaster

## Save The Date!

The 2024 RLS annual Dinner will be held Sunday Jan 7<sup>th</sup>, 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 early!

## Happy Anniversary!

Here are the membership anniversaries for September 2023

Thanks for everything you do to keep RLS going!

	Years
Mat Casford	30
Greg Casford	26
Ian Cunningham	25
Tom Lawson	25
David Parrott	17
Tamiann Parrott	17
Jack Bodenmann	12
Steve Borchert	08
Mary Weathersbee	02
Richard Weathersbee	02
Nick Ellis	01
Richard Ellis	01

## Night Run

August 5<sup>th</sup> saw our last night run for 2023 and possibly the largest. 31 members and 36 guest of members showed up!



This was also our inaugural Vendor Appreciation run. Randy Chase head of our Special Events committee invited those companies that we do business with to come on out and spend the evening riding the railroad.



There were 7 engines out on the railroad with operations going in to the wee hours of the morning.

## Run Day August 13th

Operating Superintendent Randy Chase noted in his O.S. Report; "Nice to start to very warm" pretty accurate statement of a Summer run day! With our Station Master Glenn Maness in the "Back Shop" Bill Hesse covered the Station Master duties with occasional help from Tiffany Love and John Gurwell. Chris Neiman took care of the four track crossing and yard switches for the Birthday Train. Hunter train Brakemen for the day

were Tom Crue and Jim Wood. Assisting with public passenger service was Sean Hagen with Anthony McBride as Brakeman.



The birthday train was provided by Doug Prescott and Scott Horgan running Doug's Pacific and consist.



Out on the railroad were Jonathan Chase on his 4-4-0, Bob Chamberlain and Richard Ronne continue shakedown service on the recently received Berkshire locomotive and Steve and Peggy Borchert made a few laps behind their 2-8-0. All totaled 27 members and 3 guests made it out to enjoy the day.

## Work/Fun Day Aug 19<sup>th</sup>

Though lightly attended quite a bit was done at the last Work/Fun Day.



Compound Supervisor Bob Roberts and his ever capable demolition crew of Chris Neiman, Mike Harris, Randy Chase and Bill Hesse worked on clearing out the old kitchen cabinetry and galvanized plumbing out of the Club House.



The SMP Dave Bunts worked on the Hunter tender adding couplers to the brake air lines and mounting them to the tender end beam.



Road 2 Rich Casford heading up his Gandy Dancer crew of Tom Lebs, Tom Crue, Mark Spaulding and Brook Adams installed a temporary switch in David's Yard to tie the "Mocko Shortline" in with the rest of the railroad. Gary's storage track had been disconnected from the rest of the railroad to make way for the third level hoist footers.

Mike Harris tended to the falling leaves in the Compound earlier in the week, to make the clean up on Saturday a little easier.

The Work/Fun day Lunch was

provided by camp cooks Chris Enright, his wife Laranne and his daughter.



After lunch the Board convened for its monthly meeting.

Thanks to all that attended and participated in the work day and big thanks to the Enright family for lunch.

## For Sale:

Tom Artzberger designed 2 1/2 inch scale ten wheeler [4-6-0] steam locomotive kit with tender. All parts have been machined by Pike Lake and Eastern Hartford Shops and waiting to be assembled. Chassis has been assembled and run on air. Includes all drawings. \$28,000.00



Contact George at: [sagebrushslrr@gmail](mailto:sagebrushslrr@gmail.com)  
(Photo of completed engine from Hartford Shops - <https://www.tacllc.biz/>)

## Events and Things:



### OCME Fall Meet - 2023

(From their website)  
Orange County Model Engineers invites you, your friends, and your family out for a long weekend of operating trains and celebrating the hobby of live steam as we kick off our annual Fall Meet!

September 22nd-24th (Fri-Sun), join us at a beautiful Fairview Park for food, fun, and lots of trains. The details of the event are below.

Please let us know if you have any questions, and we can't wait to see you out at OCME in September.

Sincerely,

The Board of Directors

ORANGE COUNTY MODEL  
ENGINEERS

More Info: <https://ocmetrains.org/2023/08/ocme-fall-meet-2023/>



### L.A. Union Station Train Festival 2023

September 9th and 10th celebrate the past, present and future of train travel with activities and programs throughout the iconic Los Angeles landmark. Locomotive 3751 will be on display at the event.

Railroad Equipment Tours & Displays, Model Train Displays, Architecture, Arts & Culture Tours and Docents, Information Booths, Food & Beverage Carts, Live Music & More!

The event is free, for more info check out: <https://www.unionstationla.com/happenings/train-festival-2023>

**SAFETY FIRST**

## Operation Life Saver: Rail Safety Week Sept. 18-24, 2023

*Did you know? Every 3 hours in the U.S., a person or vehicle is hit by a train. Trespassing along railroad rights-of-way is the leading cause of rail-related deaths in America and railroad crossing incidents are the second leading cause.*

**Rail Safety Week (RSW) is a great opportunity to get involved. This annual week of concentrated rail safety messaging**



**helps prevent railroad crossing and trespass incidents across North America. For more info on RSW, visit [oli.org/rsw](http://oli.org/rsw).**

**Join Operation Life Saver Sept 18-24 this year and all year long in raising awareness about the importance of making safe choices near railroad tracks and crossings.**

## Party Trains Reminder

At the June Board meeting the Board of Directors decided to increase the cost of Birthday Trains from \$50.00 to \$75.00 per hour. The trains have been the same amount all the way back when the Station was along Columbia. So, if you are approached by the general public regarding Birthday Trains be sure to tell them the new amount and have them contact Station Master Glenn Maness for scheduling.

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

## September Calendar "What is it?"



The four images show the initial construction of what will become the the Quick/Noble storage building from 16 years ago.

**Thanks to Dave Bunts, Rich Casford, Chris Neiman, Mark Spaulding 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](mailto:editor@rlsrr.com)

## *Upcoming Important Dates*

**Sept 10<sup>th</sup> Run Day West Bound**

**Oct 8<sup>th</sup> Run Day East Bound**

**Sept 16<sup>th</sup> Work Day 8:00am to 3:00pm, Board Meeting 1:00pm**

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

**Sept 24<sup>th</sup> Run Day West Bound**

**Fall Meet Oct 20, 21 22**

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: Dave Bunts  
Vice President: Bill Hesse  
Secretary: Mark Spaulding  
Treasurer: Randy Chase

### **Directors**

Director: John Gurwell  
Director: Chris Neiman  
Director: Kevin Zamp  
Director: Jonathan Rorhbach



**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: \_\_\_\_\_