

THE CHRONICLE

NEWS OF THE RIVERSIDE LIVE STEAMERS



February 2025



RLS 2025 Annual Dinner

The dapper gent you see before you is none other than Secret Agent 5057, you may know him by his alias, Chris Neiman.

Chris is seen here getting things set up for the Annual Dinner presentations.

SAFETY FIRST



It's A Hobby...

One of the neat things about operating on the Run Days is getting to share our hobby with people that may have never seen a live steam locomotive in person before, let alone a scaled down version of one. When talking to folks, one of the things I like to mention is that this hobby can encompass so many different activities. We have folks that like to operate the equipment, others that like the public interactions, some that enjoy the support of the railroad operations and any combination in between.

This can apply to the individual projects that make up the hobby whether they be for the Club or for yourself. Take for example rolling stock; you can purchase a ready to run reefer that matches the era and style of equipment that you currently have modeled and be good to go. You can also research a specific style, road name or builder of a reefer, draw up scale plans, fabricate parts in metal and wood, custom mix paint colors and detail the car out to your hearts content. Or you can do anything in between!

In either case, and with any project, there is a certain amount of planning involved usually proportional to the project. As Doug Prescott recently told me “plan the work, work the plan”. Your plan can help you focus on the project and see it through to completion. You want to be prepared when starting a project out but bear in mind that over thinking a project can be just as bad as under thinking it. As much as we'd like to foresee every aspect of our projects, there will always be surprises or unexpected twists (good as well as not so good). You may have heard the phrase “analysis paralysis” before, its where the planning of project slows down or stops the project it in it's tracks just to make sure that every contingency is considered. This can have an impact on your project time line as well as the timelines of other things you'd like to get done. Certainly plan ahead to save costs, time, or mistakes but accept that things may take more time, have more costs than you'd

planned and you are going to make mistakes – that's how we learn.

“When” is a hobby project commodity that is sometimes over looked, it's easy to budget how long something will take to complete but a lot of the times the “when” is based on what else is going on in your life. Personally, starting this year I'm setting aside specific days to work on hobby projects, it seems to work out fine for my yard work, if it's good enough for cutting my grass it should be good enough for modeling trains!

There are times where you just have to dive in to a project to get it rolling. “*Some times you just have to cut the pipe*” - In a previous life I was an Irrigation Specialist for a local school district. Though part of my job was designing and installing new irrigation systems, most of my time was spent repairing systems that had been repaired, re-repaired, re-re-repaired. Many times I'd dig out an area with a plan to make the repair only to discover that the previous repairs had the planning of a game of Waterworks. As I would stand staring blankly into the ground at piping that would make a better roller-coaster ride than an irrigation system, wondering to myself if the previous irrigation guy had a sack of parrots and monkeys for brains, I ultimately figured out that I couldn't begin to plan the new repair in any detail until I cut the old repairs out.

Remember to enjoy the little accomplishments in your hobby projects, the only way to eat an elephant is a bite at a time.

See you out on the railroad!

Brook

Brook Adams - President

Photos from the Chronicle, Run Days and more can be found at the Club's website:

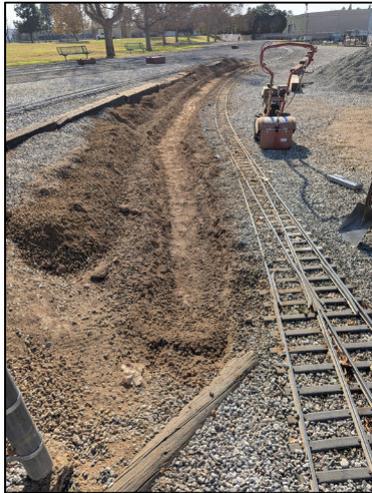


Along the Tracks

As mentioned last month, the Board approved the purchase of a tiller machine for right of way digging instead of picks and shovels.

Our President Brook Adams took delivery of the unit on Wednesday before the workday on January 18th. When Brook brought it out to the track on Friday January 17th, he decided to try out the machine.

The unit worked better than we hoped, and Brook was able to cut a trench for the second car lead going into David's yard in 45 minutes including cleaning out of the trench.



When the track crew arrived Saturday Morning, everyone wanted to give the new machine a tryout. Within an hour we were laying track on the second lead. The work went very smoothly, and the track was finished at the car-lead gate.



February Workday will see the connection of the second car lead to Tracks F-I on the east side of the Noble Quick floor tracks.

At the same time, the third level lift crew was busy welding and mounting parts on the lift. It will be a race to see if the yard track alignment is completed first or the third level lift. Healthy competition between mechanical and track departments!



Chris Enright and family provided a delicious lunch to the twenty-five members present and the Board meeting was called to order at 1:00PM.

Plan now to join your fellow members on Saturday February 15, 2025, starting at 8:00AM. Lunch at Noon to the workers will be prepared by Chef Bill Hesse. The Board of Directors meeting is to follow at 1:00PM. Come out and enjoy your railroad friends and help improve RLS.

Mark your calendar for Saturday February 15, 2025, for the next Work (FUN) Day.

Rich Casford, Roadmaster
Road 2

Events Outside of the Club

Worlds Greatest Hobby OC Fair & Event Center Feb 15th-16th Their website: <https://www.greattrainshow.com/gts-show-landing-pages/costa-mesa-02-25>

Metrolink - Ride Free on Feb 4th In honor of Rosa Parks, Metrolink will be offering free rides on Feb 4th. More info here: <https://metrolinktrains.com/>

Southern California Railway Museum

Swap Meet & Pacific Electric Day March 8th. Vendors will be selling railroad collectibles, art, books, models and toy trains. Railroad historians and preservationists will be on hand to tell the story of Southern California's railway history. <https://socalrailway.org/scrm-events/spring-swap-meet/>

RLS REVISED SAFETY RULES

BOARD APPROVED AUGUST 2024

This February 1st 2025 the new RLS Safety Rules book will be in effect. Most of the rule book is as it was. We mainly cleaned up the grammar and punctuation. We are only bringing to your attention the most significant changes. Please read through your new RLS Safety Rules book.

Rule 105. New Conductors completing the Conductor class must also complete two hours of public passenger training with a RLS Conductor. Junior Members must have a qualified RLS Conductor with them on passenger trains.

Rule 107. Public passenger cars can not use chains, plastic couplers, or aluminum couplers.

Rule 203. Engines must not exceed 5 mph.

Rule 205. A Flagman is required if the Engineer cannot see the rear of the train while backing up.

Rule 218b. Rear Conductor on public passenger trains must have a radio for communication.

Rule 302a. A Conductor is responsible for the duties of Conductor, Brakeman, and Flagman.

Rule 505d. Boilers must be hydrostatically tested 50% above the safety valve operating pressure.

Rule 505e. Engines must have two working methods of putting water into the boiler during operation, one of which must be adequate for full boiler requirements when stopped.

Rule 508. Solid fuel burning engines must use a spark arrestor while in public passenger service.

Rule 510. LPG fuel tanks must be stored in the LPG storage cage when not in use.

Chris and I have gone through the RLS Safety Rules book more times than

Carter has Pills! Most of us members remember that phrase! We have found a couple very minor issues, but nothing that is worth fixing at this time.

Rule books have started being disbursed. If you haven't received yours, please wait a week. Contact the Secretary if not received by the second Run Day.

Again, I Randy Chase, Chair of the Safety Rules Committee and Chris Neiman, Chair of the By-Laws Committee want to thank all the Committee Members for a job well done: Brook Adams, Tom Crue, Richard Ronne, Bill Hesse, Paul Lavacot, Brian Stephens, and Dan Williams.

(Editor's Note – For those that were not at the January Work Day, your Rules Book will be in the mail the first week of February)

RLS Annual Awards

The Awards Committee of Randy Chase, Chris Neiman, Tom Crue, and John Gurwell would like to acknowledge the 2024 award recipients as follows:

Hogger of The Year... Sean Hagen
Conductor of the Year... Jim Wood
Junior Member of the Year... Jery Vargas
Gandy Dancer of the Year... Richard Ronne
Camp Cooks of the Year... The Enright Family
40+ Years as Station Master... Glenn Maness
Membership, Database and Roster... Dean Willoughby
Compound Supervisor... Bob Roberts
Technical Service... Dan Williams
Special Recognition... Tom Crue
Lifetime Achievement... Jim Kreider
Live Steamer of the Year... Brook Adams

Gandy Dancer is slang for section-hand, used to describe the workers long before the railroads had equipment to lay tracks and work on them. The Awards Committee wanted to recognize a member who has worked on the railroad in order to keep it running. Richard Ronne has been building our switches and other track maintenance for years. His work is not only at the club but also at his home shop. He finished his tenth switch last year in 2024 and now agreed to do ten more. This is an award that we hope the Board of Directors keeps as a continuing award in the future. Well Done, Richard!



The Awards Committee honored Jim Kreider with a Lifetime Achievement Award for his 50 plus years of contributions to the live steam hobby. Why you may ask? Those that have talked to Jim or have worked with him

know immediately why. In his younger years with RLS he did a lot of work around the facility. His story telling, growing up around steam and being on the engines is an education on its own. He designs, assists, and educates new and older members of our live steam communities around the world. He's



written and still writes articles for various live steam publications and procedural lists. One of the best things about Jim is that he is willing to help anyone that is willing to listen with any problem that they may have about their engine, and if he doesn't have the answer for you right then, it's just another way for him to learn and he will get you the correct answer. Congratulations Jim on your Lifetime Achievement Award!

Brook Adams was selected as Live Steamer of the Year. Brook had a hand in everything the club did last year. It started with his court-ordered sentence as president in 2024 and extended into his second term this year. He is the first president in a decade to serve two consecutive sentences as president. As a consequence, the judge ordered him to serve on all committees, attend every Work Day, and publish the Chronicle without error. He was also required to supervise himself on the Calendar Committee among many, many other activities. All this is in addition to his role as Car Foreman. We could go on and on and on about all that he has accomplished, and you would have heard all about it if you were able to attend the club dinner. He's provided services above and beyond that of a typical member and hasn't been recognized by RLS for his dedicated service since at least 2016. There is a tremendous amount of love for

Brook at RLS, so please ask him about the poem that was written about him to showcase our love. Yes, it made him quite uncomfortable! Congratulations to the 2024 Live Steamer of the Year... President Brook Adams!!!



The By-Laws and Safety Rules Committee Members were also acknowledged by Tiffany Love during the event. Tiffany presented plaques to Randy Chase, Chris Neiman, Brook Adams, Richard Ronne, Tom Crue, Paul Lavacot, Bill Hesse, Brian Stephens, and Dan Williams.

The Awards Committee wants to congratulate all 2024 recipients for their service and thank all of the RLS Members and their families for attending this event. We also would like to thank the Habaneros Mexican Grill and 951 Event Center and their staff for hosting our annual dinner. A BIG THANKS to Glenn and his wife Eldonna for setting up the venue and running the raffle with prizes including 25/25/50 cash prizes. Another BIG THANK YOU to Jim Kreider for his railroad and live steam hobby history presentation. Finally, Randy, Chris, Tom, and John thank all the members for their appreciation and kind words for how the awards banquet was presented. We look forward to seeing everyone at the next event!

From The Car Foreman...

Members that store your locomotives in the Quick/Noble building - please be sure that your water/fuel sources are fully closed or that your tenders are fully drained prior to storing your equipment at the end of your operations. The drip sheets below the

storage rails are just that, for drips. We recently emptied two 5 gallon pails of fluids from Quick/Noble and I have water stains on the Hunter train seats.

- Brook

Brook Adams - Car Foreman

Have A Seat

Helping out your Club can come in many flavors and isn't limited to Work Day or Run Day activities. Tom Lebs gives us a prime example of this with his most recent project.

To say that the bench just outside of the Club House had seen better days would be an understatement.



Tom took the bench back to his house and when he brought it back to the club it looked better than brand new!! A big thanks to Tom for helping RLS shine!



For Sale...

From Dan Williams:

Ron Atkinson was a member of CVLS who passed away in 2022. His son Darren is finally getting rid of most of Ron's trains and equipment. All items are negotiable and he wants to have everything gone by April.

Shop Equipment		Locomotive and Rolling Stock	
Engine Hoist (Folding)	\$200		
Belt Disc Sander (6x48)	\$150		
Hobart Wire Welder with Cart & Bottle	\$350	RS 2 Gas-Hydraulic	\$15,000
Oxygen ATC Welder with Bottles	\$200	GP Santa Fe (Electric)	\$15,000
12" Craftsman Lathe (flat bed ways)	\$800	Silver Low side Gondola W/seat needed to operate locomotive with Controller	\$1,000
12 x 36 Enco Lathe	\$2000	Up Gondola High side	\$900
20" Mill Drill (with power feed)	\$2000	CATX Tank car	\$1,000
Sheet metal Brake	\$200	Chicago Wesst Flat with Tractor Load	\$800
3 in 1 Sheet metal Brake	\$200	ATSF Caboose	\$1,000
Bench Shears	\$40	High Side Gondola	\$600
(4) 6" Grinders	\$40	Bukhead Flat w/seating	\$1,000
Band Saw	\$175	Trailer (Carson) 2 axle and side door	\$6,00
Table Saw	\$275		
10 Ton Floor Press	\$125		
Horizontal/Vertical Bandsaw	\$150		
Abrasive Cut-Off Saw	\$100		
Chop Saw (Wood)	\$75		
Drill Press (Floor)	\$300		
Drill Press (Mini)	\$35		
Spot Welder	\$100		
Portable Compressor	\$100		

All Prices are to be approved by Darren Atkinson and are negotiable

Contact Dan Williams

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For Sale

Charlie Kennemer is selling his 2-6-0 locomotive and tender, flat car with



tool box, riding car and caboose.



Charlie has dropped his asking price from \$25,000 to \$20,00 for the whole set.



As Charlie has a hard time hearing over the phone Richard Miller is helping out with the sale. You can contact Richard at (951)905-0147

For Sale

Allen Mogul and Bobber Caboose

2-6-0 Allen Mogul. Contact Patrick O'Guinn at (949)-498-0388 or (949)-233-3553 for more information.

Compound Safety Notice: David's Yard

Project Supervisor Dave Bunts would like to remind everyone that the area of David's Yard in front of the Quick/Noble South doors is an ongoing construction area as the Third Level Hoist project continues.

The hoist construction team will do their best to secure the project at the end of their work sessions but you must exercise caution when moving your or the Club's rolling stock in or out of the building.



Be aware of tripping or 'ankle biting' hazards.

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February Calendar "Who is it ?"



Top Left: (from Left) Mark Spaulding, Chris Neiman Anthony McBride and Doug Peterson leveling the track

Top Right: Brian Stephens is at the throttle of the 7081.

Lower Left: Dale Chamberlain climbs the grade out of Allen's Valley

Lower Right: Mike Harris rolls through the station yard on on his 2-6-0.

Thanks to Rich Casford, Randy Chase, Joan Adams, Dan Williams, Richard Ronne and Chris Neiman 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

**February 9th ,Run Day Eastbound
Outside Loop**

**March 9th , Run Day Westbound
Outside Loop**

**February 15th , Work/Fun Day 8:00am
to 3:00pm, Board Meeting 1:00pm**

**March 15th , Work/Fun Day 8:00am to
3:00pm, Board Meeting 1:00pm**

**February 23rd , Run Day Eastbound
Figure Eight**

**March 23rd , Run Day Westbound
Figure Eight**

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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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