

LALS ENGINE BOOSTER



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ "NEWS OF YOUR FRIENDS" ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

May 2005

www.lals.org

Vol. XL, No. V

Spring Meet 2005 Ahead

By Lew and Bernice Soibelman



Welcome to the Spring Meet of 2005. The Meet begins Friday, May 27th and continues through Monday, May 30th. Jan Bass will serve lunch on Friday. The evening meal will be a spaghetti feast prepared by Eric Fields. We are requesting participants to bring a dessert to share with those eating dinner. There will be plenty of time to operate your train and to visit with your friends.

Saturday morning begins with a breakfast that will be prepared by Steve Harris and Shira Bush. During the day the Children's Crafts Table will be in full swing under the direction of Carolyn Hayes to keep the young attendees busy. Our souvenir table will be open for those who wish to purchase items as a remembrance of the event. Tickets for

the adult and children's raffle will be available at this table. Bernice and Lew Soibelman will prepare lunch. The evening dinner will be catered by Chris' & Pitt's Bar-B-Q. Make your reservations with Dan O'Brien as early as possible to ensure your meal. During and following dinner, we will be entertained with Big Band music performed by *The Esquires* (we'd appreciate a donation to help cover the band).

Sunday morning breakfast is available for hungry participants. The chef this morning will be Les Kovacs. Eric Fields will prepare lunch. A pizza, salad, and a drink are your "all you can eat" dinner that will be served by Don Frozina. Again, there is plenty of time to operate your train and to visit.

Monday starts with breakfast again presented by Les Kovacs. Jan Bass will serve lunch on the last day of the Spring Meet.

Dining times are as follows: Friday evening spaghetti dinner: 6 pm; Saturday, Sunday, and Monday breakfast: 8 – 9:30 am; Saturday, Sunday, and Monday lunch: 11:30 am – 2 pm; Saturday, Sunday dinner: 5:30 pm.

As in past years, there will be no parking in the inner parking lot, except for the handicapped. This will allow those with trucks and/or trailers to maneuver more easily.

We wish to remind everyone that a very important part of this Meet is the opportunity to use the smaller gauge tracks that are an integral part of these activities. There are approximately 3,380 feet of track to enjoy. Some of this track work is of dual gauge that can serve 4¾" and 3½" gauges. In the last few years there have been many improvements to this part of the facility. There are new track, switches, bridges, and signals that will enhance your enjoyment. So bring

(Continued on page 3)

Member Calendar

May 7	Change Directions
May 9	Board Meeting
May 14	Work Day
May 21	Work Day
	New Member Orientation
	General Meeting
May 27-30	Spring Meet
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Jun. 4	City of Hope Run
Jun. 6	Board Meeting
Jun. 11	Children's Hospital Run

Board/General Meetings begin at 7 pm.

Public Service Schedule

May 1	Public Rides
May 8	Public Rides
May 15	Public Rides
	Disney barn
	Steam Plant
May 22	Public Rides
<hr/>	
Jun. 5	Public Rides

In This Issue

General Meeting Highlights	2
General Superintendent	3
Member Orientation & Inclusion Program	4
President's Message	3
Remember When...	3
Silver Rails Ready for the Spring Meet	5
Society for the Preservation of Railway Dining	5
Splinters from the Board	2

Splinters from the Board

April 4, 2005

By George Bass

Steve Harris introduced new members Paul Marin (non-resident) and Pete Harney. John Alexander opted for a *Booster* only subscription. There are 470 (259 resident, 114 non-resident, Junior and Special) members. Forty-five members have not responded.

There was no formal Superintendent's Report. However, Roger Bacon brought up concerns for three major trees that need to be addressed: a tree by the Steam Plant, a tree at the Kountry Kitchen, and a tree on the east end near the 1" scale bridge. All of these are going to need a professional tree company to perform upper canopy reduction and root shaving.

Dave Johnson reported that the survey markers around the facility are only for measuring as there is a survey being undertaken of the facility at no cost to the Museum. The survey work has been completed to augment an aerial survey. There was a discussion of a plan for the reconfiguration of the Sutchville area. The work would be accomplished with donated funds. There was also a discussion of future track reconfigurations.

Willie Wilhelm reported that on Easter Sunday there was a very large crowd. Trains and train crews were a bit short, causing some delays. This past Sunday things returned to normal with public rides going smoothly.

The proposed kitchen improvement would consolidate refrigeration and freezing to better serve our members and cut electrical costs. There will be ongoing discussion on future Kitchen plans.

Souvenir Stand: The cash register is on hand. There was a motion to place a \$2,250 limit on purchases of big selling

(Continued on page 5)

General Meeting Highlights

April 16, 2005

By George Bass

President Don Frozina began the meeting by having Meet Coordinator Lew Soibelman give a detailed discussion of the Spring Meet preparations. The meals for the Meet have been planned, but help is needed. Please talk with Lew to help with this matter. The *Engine Booster* will have a form for reservations for the Saturday night banquet. There will be no unloading of the smaller scales in the inner lot after 3 pm on Saturday so the band can assemble for the dinner. There will be vendors and souvenirs. Items need to be donated for the children's raffle. There will be children's crafts on Saturday and Sunday provided by Carolyn Hayes.

President Frozina then gave a recap of the Board of Directors meeting. He also related a modification of the previously approved tie stock purchase. It is manufactured in the east and will be directly delivered to Doug Young's business location. Doug will subsequently transport it to the Museum. The Museum purchased 8,916 feet of tie material for \$9,996 (including shipping).

Dick Jensen has the *Rosters*, if anyone would like to pick up a copy. Leonard Evans obtained over \$3,000 in ads to pay for the printing and mailing. The kitchen potluck fundraiser for March brought in \$566. The target is \$3,000.

The April 16th workday completed cleanup in the infield. Ballasting of the highline up on the east end, silt mitigation, weed abatement and 1" scale work.

Jan Bass reported on the menu for the April 17th kitchen potluck fundraiser.

Dave Johnson reported on the Safety Program. He talked about the insurance discussion regarding the Museum being covered for calendared events. Members using trains in the facility during the week are not covered. Regarding the Sutchville reconfiguration: comments and suggestions are being accepted.

Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum *Engine Booster*

The *Engine Booster* is the monthly publication of the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum, a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Museum/tracks are located in Griffith Park, 5202 Zoo Dr., Los Angeles, CA. Mailing address: PO Box 2156 Toluca Lake, CA 91610.

The *Engine Booster* is edited and laid out by Donald Frozina and is produced on a PC using Microsoft® Publisher 2000 software. Articles and photos are always welcomed, although the right is reserved to edit all copy. Deadline is the 20th of the month prior to publication. Input can be dropped into the "Booster" mailbox in the UP caboose, mailed, e-mailed or faxed as follows:

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E-mail: booster@lals.org Fax: 310/302-4111

Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum Board of Directors 2005

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer



Donald Frozina
David Johnson
George Bass
Eric Fields

Board Members

Gary Baker
Roger Bacon
Fred Lack
John Smith

Phone 323/661-8958

FROM THE **General Superintendent**

By Tom Crawford



This last workday was a huge success! Many members came out on a sunny Saturday to do all kinds of landscape maintenance and special projects. Leaves and pine needles were making a mass exodus from the grounds. The track crew added ballast filler to

the highline track and the weed killing crew was hard at work all over the place. The UP caboose even got the cobwebs and dust cleaned out of it! Thanks to everyone that showed up to help. A special thanks to the kitchen crew for cooking us a delicious lunch, it was well needed by noon.

This month we have two workdays scheduled for preparation of the Spring Meet. One is on Saturday, May 14th and the other is on Saturday, May 21st. There is still a lot of work to be done around the Museum grounds before the Meet, so everyone should come on down and lend a hand.

Many items have been completed on the *Things to do Around This Place* punch list and new items have been added. An updated copy of this can be found inside the "Who's Been Working on the Railroad" binder next to the telephone that's in the gazebo. Any member that can't find a special project to do should find something on the list.

As always, for those of you that come out and work 4 or more hours on the next workday, you will get a free lunch. New probationary members: don't forget to fill out and turn in your yellow time cards for your time worked.

President's Message

By Donald Frozina



Our upcoming Spring Meet is a large gathering or party we host for our guests from around the state (and sometimes other states and countries too). As with any large party, much planning is needed so that it is successful. I'd like to thank Lew and Bernice

Soibelman in advance for all the hard work they've put into planning our Spring Meet.

Your help is still needed to make this Spring Meet even more successful. Volunteers are needed to help prepare the many breakfasts, lunches and dinners we're preparing. Contact Lew Soibelman to help out. Volunteers are also needed to staff the registration booth at our east gate. These are two-hour shifts, and the time passes quickly. Many openings still need to be filled. Contact Tom Lang to assist.

The two Saturdays after the Spring Meet will be our City of Hope Run and our Children's Hospital Run. Here is where we give back to the community by letting these fine organizations use our facility and by providing train rides to patients, employees and professional staff. Contact Dan O'Brien for the City of Hope Run, and Mel Bresee for the Children's Hospital Run to help out.

This last Kitchen Improvement Fund potluck, put on by the Society for the Preservation of Railway Dining brought in \$533. This, totaled with our previous two potlucks have made \$1,418—about 47% of our \$3,000 goal. Thank you all for being so generous!

Remember When...

By Doug Alkire

Looking West by North. Los Angeles Live Steamers from the South hill. 1960.



Spring Meet 2005 Ahead (Continued from page 1)

your smaller gauge trains to this Spring Meet and be a participant.

We are also faced with the possibility that some members or guests are no longer able to transport their equipment to the track for a variety of reasons, so why not offer to help and bring their equipment to the track for them. This would make some people very happy.

We are looking forward to seeing the members and guests at the 2005 Spring Meet at the Los Angeles Live Steamers

In Memoriam

By David Lazarus

Three year member, Barry Alberts, passed away on March 31, 2005 after a long illness. Barry was an aerospace engineer, and later owned Buildit Engineering, a food service and restaurant equipment manufacturer. Barry was also an avid Model A enthusiast. Our condolences go out to Barry's family.

Engineers and Conductors March 2005

<u>Date/Passengers</u>	<u>Engineer</u>	<u>Conductor</u>	<u>Owner</u>
03/06/2005 793 passengers	Chuck Mohr Michael Romanucci Peter Fuad Rory Hawkins Tracy Beattie Andrew Held Andy Skowronski Larry Mitchell Peter Nott	Ray Secara Roberto Lopez Bob Quinn Robert Lamont Sam Calderwood David Lazarus Mike Murphy Thaine Morris Bill Taylor	Mohr LALSRM Fuad Hawkins Beattie Burdorf Murphy Mitchell LALSRM
Station Assistants: Pat Miller and Gail Woodward			
03/13/2005 908 passengers	Chuck Mohr Peter Fuad Mike Murphy Eugene Heiman Sam Calderwood Andy Blake Wolfgang Hell Bonnie Kaufman Peter Nott Leonard Evans	Ray Secara Roberto Lopez Andy Skowronski Doug Ward Tracy Beattie Bart Sissons Gary Raymond Monica Gibson Leni Goldberg G. Hartman & M. Houston	Mohr Fuad Murphy LALSRM Calderwood Sissons LALS Murphy Nott LALSRM
Station Master: John DePhillip Sr./Aaron Emmer Site Manager: Fred Lack Station Assistants: Pat Miller, Don Emmer and Larry Mitchell			
03/20/2005 796 passengers	Chuck Mohr Peter Fuad Wolfgang Hell Peter Nott Mike Murphy Andrew Held Sam Calderwood Bonnie Kaufman Roger Bacon	Ray Secara Bob Quinn Doug Ward <i>unknown</i> Andy Skowronski Tom Downing T. Beattie/G. Klose Monica Gibson Eric Fields	Mohr Fuad LALSRM Nott Murphy Burdorf Calderwood Kaufman LALSRM
Station Master: John DePhillip Sr. Station Assistants: Pat Miller, Gail Woodward and Larry Mitchell			
03/27/2005 810 passengers	Michael Romanucci Steve Harris Bonnie Kaufman Peter Nott Larry Mitchell Peter Fuad Todd Moore	Roberto Lopez Rory Hawkins Leni Goldberg James Derderian Bart Sissons Michael Bruce D. Finnegan/G. Klose	LALSRM Harris Kaufman Nott Mitchell Fuad Moore
Station Assistant: Gail Woodward			

3,307 Total passengers for month
8,471 Total passengers to date

Member Orientation & Inclusion Program

By Leonard Evans

Saturday, May 21st, 2005, open to all members, there will be another orientation and inclusion session in the Museum's meeting car. First a video history of live steam 1890 to the present, then a walk through the facility to meet briefly with different volunteers. We'll have lunch at noon, then spend the remaining time to help get the facility ready for the Spring Meet. Starts 9 am. Questions or suggestions contact Leonard Evans, 310/871-9255.

Training Classes

Conductor: Want to learn to be a conductor? Call Roger Bacon at 818/887-0898 or Eric Fields at 818/205-1653 or Steve Harris at 818/842-2296 to schedule a class. There is an excellent DVD available to either borrow or own (\$5). The conductor class typically meets on a Saturday.

Diesel Engineer: Want to learn to operate the organization's diesel locomotives? Call Roger Bacon at 818/887-0898 or Gary Burdorf at 310/573-2019 or Eric Fields at 818/205-1653 to schedule a class. The diesel class typically meets on a Saturday with the Check Ride on the following Sunday. Note: You must have completed all your conductor requirements to attend this class.

Steam Engineer: Want to learn to operate the organization's steam locomotive? Call Wolf Fengler at 310/328-7283 to schedule a class. Note: You must have completed all your diesel engineer requirements, and have logged at least 40 hours as a diesel engineer, to attend this class.



Who's Been Workin' on the RR

Mar. 20 — Apr. 16

Akins, Tom x6	Frozina, Donald
Altmayer, Steve x2	Fuad, Peter
Barrett, Dene	Garber, Devon
Barrett, Pat	Hawkins, Rory
Benedict, Matthew	Heiman, Gene
Benedict, Sean	Holman, Dave x2
Benedict, Steve	Kovacs, Les x2
Berg, Ginny x3	Mahony, Chris x2
Berg, Ted x3	Marin, Paulo x3
Bresee, Mel	Moore, Todd
Crawford, Tom	Moore and Family,
Crone, Bob x2	Todd
Crowner, Eugene	Moore, Russel
Downing, Tom x4	Quinn, Bob
Fidger, Tom	Soibelman, Lew x3
Finnegan, Denis	Young, Doug

Society for the Preservation of Railway Dining

By Monica Gibson

The following folks, Jan and George Bass, Tony Stein, Chris Mahoney, Robbin Lynn, Don and Larissa Frozina, Todd and Lisa Moore, Roberto Lopez and Bonnie Kaufman, have given very generous donations of food to build funds for a safer, cleaner and more efficient food service area. New refrigeration alone will save as much as \$100.00 a month on our electric bill. Thank you to all who have dined and donated!

We need a lot more dollars and volunteers. Can you donate a main course or salad for a third Sunday? Contact Bonnie Kaufman.

Machine Tech Class Offered

By David Lazarus

Glendale Community College is offering a Machine Technology class from June 20 to July 29. This 6-week class, MACH 111, meets MW from 5:30 to 10:30 pm, and explores principles of numerical control, preparation of machining programs, and development of control tapes. Contact David Lazarus, 818/389-9886 for more information.

Splinters from the Board *(Continued from page 2)*

items such as hats, shirts and children's tee shirts for the Spring Meet

Party Requests: Three party requests were moved, seconded and approved. The June 10th BTS party was cancelled. The N-scale group is scheduled for July 9 from 5 to 9 pm. They plan to make a donation.

Safety Committee: There was a discussion of the updated safety rules. A child must be able to walk to the train unassisted to ride. Safety rules are to be posted at the east gate for the Meets. Only approved battery chargers are to be used. These chargers will be checked and tagged yearly. It was moved and seconded to accept the safety committee report and begin the implementation schedule. It will be phased in and modifications can be made as the need arises. The motion carried.

There has been discussion with the insurance carrier regarding possible expansion of the scope of coverage to the Museum (the facility being covered all of the time).

The Spring Meet was discussed, specifically the parking lot, Saturday night dinner, the band, campers in the parking lot and the kitchen. The Board approved a \$500 deposit for the Saturday dinner by Chris' and Pitt's.

There were two Gordon Sherwood designs presented for consideration as the 50th Anniversary logo.

Silver Rails Ready for the Spring Meet

By Ted Berg

A lot of track improvements are in progress for the 4¾" and 3½" gauge rails. Chris Mahony, John DeRosa, Bob Crone, Dave Holman, Ted and Ginny Berg have set in new track panels, check and adjusted gauging, and corrected tipped track. The last new switch actuator is finished and its installation will make all switches spring activated.

Our track foremen, Chris Mahony and John DeRosa, have encouraged the small gauges to show up especially on the third Sunday of each month and April 17th had three switchers, a GP-9, and Bob Crone's 1½" N.G. 4¾" gauge 2-6-0 coal fired steamer checking out the layout. You are also welcome to run any day, unless workday leads to replacing track panels or repairing switches and turnouts.

Jerry Albus and friends enjoyed this Sunday and a good number of children who have become very skilled and safety-oriented on the 1" scale engines.

Please bring out your equipment, running or not, for the Spring Meet in May. You are going to see a number of new train cars just recently completed. Please help us keep pedestrians off the track. Also please park trains on sidings, not on main lines. Sidings are at the east side of old Sherwood Station and in Cooper Yard. There is no restriction on motive power. However, we do not allow "skateboarding" on flat cars. All cars must be pulled by a locomotive.

Note: Vans and trailers cannot unload/load 1" scale equipment at the inside hoist Saturday (only) of the Meet, after 3 pm. We can accommodate you with the Museum's dolly from the outer lot hoist, so come!

We are looking forward to seeing a big turnout for the Spring Meet!

For Sale

10" Logan toolroom lathe, \$390.00. Fitchburg Northern Mogul frame and all Gene Allen prints \$55.00. Contact Roger Schenck, 562/425-7996.

2½-inch scale loco, 5 cars, and cabooses. It's my SP 53 that is usually out working during the week. 36-volt electric with horn, bell, headlights, built-in charger. Train runs very well, needs a little touch up in places. I want to get into steam, so need to sell. Asking price is \$10,000. Contact John Smith, 818/631-5788.

10" Atlas lathe, excellent condition, includes 3-jaw, large 4-jaw chucks and collets, \$750.00. Contact Brad Bluth, 310/450-8016.



Spring Meet 2005

5202 Zoo Drive, Los Angeles, California

Friday May 27th through Monday May 30th

SAVE GAS! ATTEND YOUR LOCAL MEET!

Friday

- Spaghetti Dinner, \$1/person, also bring a dessert to share with others
- Night running
- Visiting

Saturday

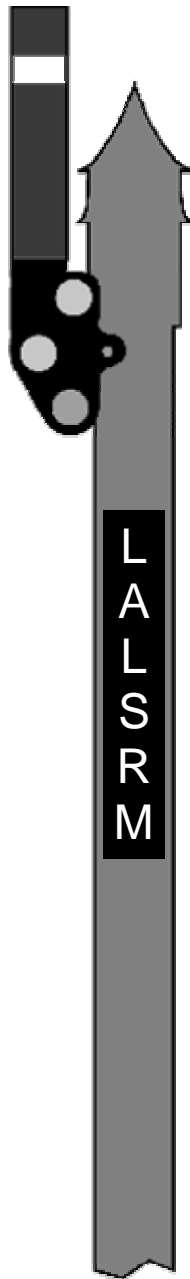
- Breakfast and Lunch, at a nominal cost
- Catered Ribs and Chicken Dinner, \$15/person
- Live Big Band music
- Souvenirs
- Children's Crafts
- Day and night running
- Visiting

Sunday

- Breakfast and Lunch, at a nominal cost
- All you can eat pizza Dinner, \$5/person
- Souvenirs
- Children's Crafts
- Children's Raffle
- Raffle
- Day and night running
- Visiting

Monday

- Breakfast and Lunch, at a nominal cost
- Souvenirs
- Day running
- Visiting



7½" Gauge

- 20,000+ ft of track, including 80 switches.
- Boiler water available at 19 locations around the track (not including the steaming bays).
- Compressed air available at 17 locations around the track (not including the steaming bays).
- Operating multiple-position signals at 105 locations.
- Two transfer tables and one turntable.
- Two hydraulic lifts.
- 42 steaming bays for 7½" gauge equipment.
- Many sidings with electrical outlets for recharging battery-powered locomotives.

4¾" and 3½" Gauges

- Approximately 2,050 ft. of dual gauge 3½" and 4¾" track.
- Approximately 1,320 ft. of 4¾" track, making available 3,380 ft. of track for the 1" scale and 1½" scale narrow gauge operators.
- 17 steaming bays with air and water, including 7 dual gauge ones to accommodate 3½" gauge locomotives.
- Two turntables.
- Boiler water available at 5 locations around the track (not including the steaming bays).
- Three sidings with electrical outlets for recharging battery-powered locomotives.
- Operating signals.

"G" Gauge

- Large outdoor garden railroad layout.

Stationary Steam Plant

Disney Barn

Visit us on the web at: www.lals.org



2005 Spring Meet Dinner Reservation Form

Saturday, May 28th, 2005 at 5:30 pm. Only \$15/person!

Chris' & Pitt's Baby Back Ribs, Chicken, BBQ Beans, Potato Salad,
Tossed Green Salad, Garlic Bread, Drink and Dessert!

Reserving now gives you preferred seating and
enters you into a 2-for-1-dinner drawing!

Name _____

_____ dinners @ \$15/dinner = \$ _____ total

Remit the total amount calculated above by May 14th, 2005 to

**2005 Spring Meet Dinner Coordinator
c/o Dan O'Brien
9652 Duke Drive
Westminster, CA 92683-6954**



For more informatuion, contact
Dan O'Brien at 714/531-2253