

# LALS ENGINE BOOSTER



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ "NEWS OF YOUR FRIENDS" ★ ★ ★ ★ ★  
 September 2005 [www.lals.org](http://www.lals.org) Vol. XL, No. IX

## Toy Train Operating Society Run Review

*By Steve Waller*



The Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum sponsored the 5<sup>th</sup> Annual Picnic for the Southwestern Division of the Toy Train Operating Society on a sunny and mild Saturday, August 13, 2005.

There were quite a few trains hauling guests on the 7½" gauge track this year. Among the motive-power spotted was a live steam Pennsy K5 Pacific, a Fairbanks-Morse Trainmaster, a pair of Baldwin S-12 switchers, an EMD F7 in black widow colors, an ALCO FA, a battery-powered 0-4-0 Porter and a super-jumbo Lionel 402 electric.

There were toy trains on hand, too, including a postwar "O"-27 Marx layout, a BRIO wooden train table and a G-scale Thomas the Tank Engine pike in the Goudie Pavilion, plus an LGB Amtrak streamliner running on the garden railroad.

The Disney Barn was open, featuring an operating Disneyland monorail display, a Lionel "O" gauge layout and a new Ward Kimball train exhibit. The kitchen served food for almost 300 people and there was a nice selection of LALS SRM souvenirs available.

As a thank-you, Larry Pearson, President of TTOS-SW, presented LALS SRM with a donation of \$500.00. Thanks to all who made the event a success!

## Fall Meet 2005: Steaming Towards Our 50<sup>th</sup>

*By Eric Fields and Fred Lack*

The 2005 Fall Meet is quickly approaching. It will be held on September 30<sup>th</sup> through October 2<sup>nd</sup>. Plan to come out and enjoy a weekend full of fun events!

On Friday evening, enjoy Spaghetti dinner for a dollar. Included in dinner will be our famous homemade spaghetti, Italian sausage, salad, and breadsticks and drink. For the potluck dessert, cook up those outstanding cookies, cakes, and pastries for a fantastic spread! That evening, we will also have a bi-directional run on both the 1½" and the 1" railroads.

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Member Calendar

Sep. 3	<b>Change Directions</b>
Sep. 12	Board Meeting
Sep. 17	Work Day
	General Meeting
	<b>Nominations</b>
Sep. 24	Work Day
Sep. 30	<b>Fall Meet</b>
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Oct. 1-2	<b>Fall Meet</b>
Oct. 3	Board Meeting
Oct. 8	<b>Webb-Stutson Run</b>

*Board/General Meetings begin at 7 pm.*

## Public Service Schedule

Sep. 4	Public Rides
Sep. 11	Public Rides
Sep. 18	Public Rides
	Disney Barn Open
	Steam Plant Open
Sep. 25	Public Rides
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Oct. 9	Public Rides

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## Splinters from the Board

### August 8, 2005

By George Bass

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by President Don Frozina.

The Secretary reported that party requests were received for Bonnie Kauffman (August 8), Steve Harris (August 27) and Andrew Held (September 3). The Make-A-Wish party will be held on Saturday August 27. Eric Fields will host.

**General Superintendent:** A pressure regulator controlling the restroom had failed and was replaced. Outside lighting has also been repaired.

**Membership:** New members Andrew Pomerantz, Jeff Groseth, David Held, and Bethanne Kim (not present) were introduced by Steve Harris.

**Facility Planning:** Dave Johnson reported that the British rail sample has not yet arrived. The proposed cost would be about \$11,000 for 4.7 metric tons or 8,000'. In addition, there is a broken lamp post near the curved sidewalk. Todd Moore reported on the progress of the pumpkin patch.

**Safety:** The water fountain near the kitchen has been unplugged and red tagged since the compressor failed.

**Operations:** Things are running well. The electric locomotive is doing well. The timer is effective. Willie Wilhelm also gave a report on the status of the air compressors.

**Unfinished Business:** There was no update on the Garden Club proposal since Leni Goldberg was not present.

P&P A108 (Environmental Quality) was read. P&P I108 (Organizational Values and Behaviors) was read. P&P I109

(Continued on page 6)

## General Meeting Highlights

### August 20, 2005

By George Bass

At the August membership meeting, President Don Frozina reviewed the actions of the August Board Meeting.

Dave Johnson reported on several items that were discussed at the August Board meeting, but had additional information, which was not available at that time. New rail has been ordered that matches our existing profile, but there will be an additional charge for special insurance. There was discussion on this item. There is a thirty-two inch difference in grade from the end of the Sherwood Logging Bridge to the Eppich Tunnel. There was detailed discussion on whether to smooth out this grade or not. The transfer table eighteen-inch extension and re-alignment project looks good. There was a vote and the vote was in favor of approving this.

The Water and Power Department intends to replace the Silverlake Reservoir with a new covered one near the intersection of Forest Lawn Drive and Zoo Drive. They will tunnel or trench along Zoo Drive and this will impact the Museum. However, the project will not take place for several years.

There was an intense discussion regarding leases in the Phil West Barn. Several votes were taken to determine how the members present felt about the issue. A vote by mail will be taken of the entire voting membership to help decide the final outcome.

There was a detailed discussion of five proposals of various track realignments for the Sutchville project. Comments were taken and the Board will consider the FCR in September. Any input from the membership is appreciated.

### 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.

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### Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum Board of Directors 2005

**President**  
**Vice President**  
**Secretary**  
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**Directors**

Donald Frozina  
David Johnson  
George Bass  
Eric Fields

Gary Baker  
Roger Bacon  
Fred Lack  
John Smith

Phone 323/661-8958

FROM THE **General Superintendent**

*By Tom Downing*



It looks like the hot summer weather is here now. To combat this we have been working on the water mister systems. At this time it does look like it's cooling off most of the people riding the trains.

A BIG thank you goes to new member Raymond Misrahi for replacing the 2-inch water pressure regulator to the bathrooms. He got the job done fast and saved LALS RM some big bucks. New members Mike Casey and Dorian Kracht, with their families, have also been busy getting things done. As our organization nears its 50-year mark, the list of facility repairs is never ending. Many of the non-probationary members have been busy too and everyone's help is much appreciated!

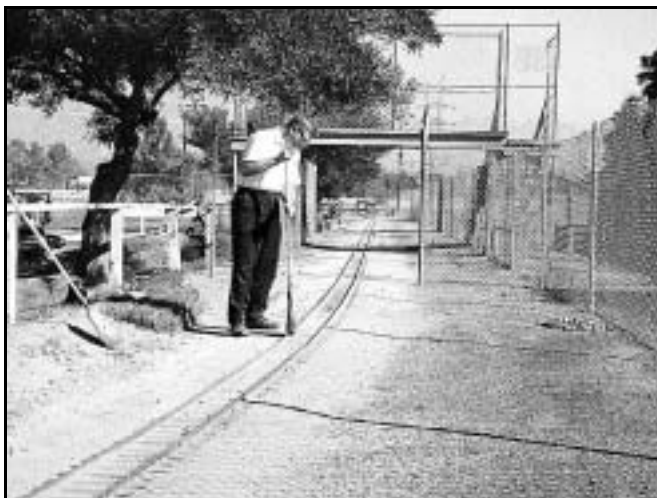
New members—remember this is a big museum and it's easy to fall through the cracks. If you need some guidance on how to get your probation time in, please call a Board member, Steve Harris or myself and we will try to help you.

Next workday is on September 17<sup>th</sup>; if you have some free time, please come out and help us.

## Remember When...

*By Doug Alkire*

Truman Rudderow sweeps ballast on the new "Disney Loop" at LALS. 1965.



## President's Message

*By Donald Frozina*



The Fall Meet is almost upon us and it's time to get the facility in shape. There will be a second work day in September, to be held on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Please come on out to both work days and pitch in! (There are always leaves and pine needles to rake.)

Dave Clark, Larry Sack and Willie Wilhelm have been looking at our compressors in the pump house. They believe that we will have enough air for the Fall Meet, but it is doubtful that we'll have enough air for our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spring Meet next year. They are doing what they can with the existing units, but we might need to fund some commercial repairs or replacements.

Michael Romanucci will soon be replacing the incandescent light bulbs in the tri-light signals with green, yellow and red light emitting diodes (LEDs). These automotive-style LEDs have a wedge base and 4 emitters (lights)—so it's just a plug-and-go replacement. They are nice and bright! This will rectify the issue of the bulbs' colors fading over time, and they will virtually last a lifetime—also the current draw of LEDs is substantially less than that of incandescent bulbs.

We have ordered 8,000 feet of steel rail, with the exact same profile of our existing steel rail, from the British foundry that made our last batch. The price per foot has gone up, (of course) since the last order. On top of that, we are unable to purchase the rail directly from the manufacturer, and will have to get it from an importer—yet another fee. The total cost per foot is still 25% lower than our last batch.

## Nominating Committee Appointed

*By Donald Frozina*



At the August 8<sup>th</sup> Board of Directors meeting, President Don Frozina nominated, and the Board of Directors approved the Nominating Committee. The Committee consists of Mel Breesee, Dick Brennan and Lew Soibelman. Please consider running for the Board of Directors. Being a Director of the Museum can be a challenging and rewarding experience. Remember, without your participation, we would have no Museum.

## Engineers and Conductors July 2005

<u>Date/Passengers</u>	<u>Engineer</u>	<u>Conductor</u>	<u>Owner</u>
07/03/2005 1,028 passengers	Chuck Mohr Bob Woodward Peter Fuad Michael Murphy Mel Bresee Sam Calderwood Larry Mitchell Bonnie Kaufman Bart Sissons Gary Baker Jon Newbill Andrew Held Peter Nott	Ray Secara Gail Woodward Bob Quinn Bob Crone D. Ward/D. Frozina Tracy Beattie Joe Hayes M. Gibson/D. Ward Andy Blake Michael Bruce Dan Newbill Fred Lack James Derderian	Mohr Mohr Fuad Murphy Bresee Calderwood Mitchell Kaufman Sissons LALSRM J. Newbill Burdorf Nott
Station Assistants: Pat Miller, Fred Lack, Lucille Secara and Steve Benedict			
07/10/2005 1,096 passengers	Bob Woodward Peter Fuad Michael Murphy Ted Naimy Bonnie Kaufman Sam Calderwood Ron Bergmann Jon Newbill Michael Bruce Gary Baker	Gail Woodward Bob Quinn Bob Crone Ray Secara Doug Ward Tracy Beattie Rowland Fogarty Dan Newbill Roger Bacon Gerhard Klose	B. Woodward Fuad Murphy LALSRM Kaufman Calderwood Bergmann J. Newbill LALSRM Rowsell
Station Assistant: Pat Miller			
07/17/2005 1,109 passengers	Bob Woodward Michael Romanucci Peter Fuad Steve Harris Sam Calderwood Michael Murphy Bonnie Kaufman Andy Blake R. Bacon/C. Mahony	Gail Woodward Roberto Lopez Bob Quinn Ray Secara Tracy Beattie Chris Solak G. Sherwood/F. Lack Bart Sissons Eric Fields	B. Woodward LALSRM Fuad Harris Calderwood Murphy Kaufman Sissons LALSRM
Station Assistants: Pat Miller and Donald Frozina			
07/24/2005 1,001 passengers	Chuck Mohr Michael Romanucci Peter Fuad Michael Murphy Bonnie Kaufman Todd Moore Sam Calderwood Tom Downing Dan Newbill Roger Bacon	Ray Secara Ray Misrahi Bob Quinn Chris Solak Bob Crone Lisa Moore Tracy Beattie Henry Villafana Jon Newbill E. Fields/F. Lack	Mohr LALSRM Fuad Murphy Kaufman T. Moore Calderwood LALSRM J. Newbill LALSRM
07/31/2005 1,214 passengers	Peter Fuad Bernie Harris Bob Woodward Ted Naimy Chuck Mohr Michael Murphy Sam Calderwood Andy Blake Bonnie Kaufman Todd Moore	Bob Quinn R. Misrahi/M. Bruce Gail Woodward B. Kaufman/C. Mahony Ray Secara Bob Crone Tracy Beattie Bart Sissons David Lazarus Denis Finnegan	Fuad S. Harris B. Woodward LALSRM Mohr Murphy Calderwood Sissons Kaufman Moore
Station Assistants: Pat Miller and Lucille Secara			
5,448	Total passengers for month		
24,919	Total passengers to date		

## Who's Been Workin' on the RR Jul. 16 — Aug. 20

Akins, Tom	Garber, Devon
Bass, Smokey	Kracht, Dorian
Bresee, Mel	Lamont, Robert
Casey, Kory x3	Mahony, Chris
Casey, Kyle x3	Moore, Todd
Casey, Michael x3	O'Connell, Preston x3
DeRosa, John x2	Rose, Doug
Downing Tom x7	Soibelman, Lew
Finnegan, Denis	x3
Frozina, Donald	Villafana, Henry
Garber, David	Ward, Doug

## 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.

## Wanted

**Power lawn edger.** No longer need that working power lawn edger you bought years ago? Donate it to the Museum so that we can keep our walkways neat and trimmed. Contact Donald Frozina, 661/949-6107.

**4¾" gauge steam loco,** small to medium size. Must be substantially complete. Will pay reasonable price. Contact Gerhard Klose, 323/663-0769, or gklose@jpl.nasa.gov.

## Small Scale Sunday Continues

By Christopher Mahony & John DeRosa

Under sunny skies, the 1" line was busy on the 21<sup>st</sup> of August. Besides Bonnie Kaufman's electric running late in the day with lots of children riding, the rails had three other trains running.



Tom Downing takes on a group for loop around the rails.

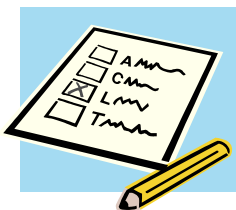


John DeRosa's F-7 passes the Sutchville Station.

The 1" line is in great shape. We encourage anybody who has a 1" or 3/4" scale equipment to come out and run. The upcoming Fall Meet should be a showcase of the smaller scale equipment. Remember this is the only public facility in Southern California where the small scales can run. Tell anyone you know to come to Small Scale Sunday, the third Sunday of the month.

## Phil West Barn Survey

By Donald Frozina



The Board of Directors has decided to send out an informational survey to get a sense of the Museum's membership as to the disposition of the Phil West Barn leases. What we'll be asking is whether all of the barn goes into the shed pool or only part of it goes into the shed pool.

The Board of Directors hopes that all members will respond to the survey, as we value your input and guidance.

## Donations Needed for the President's Auction

By Joe Powell



The Fall Meet is fast approaching, and this is the call for donated items to be auctioned on Sunday morning at the President's Auction.

The auction will take place at 11 am, as this is the published time. Please help with your donations of tools, machinery, modelers supplies, unfinished projects, fixer-upper engines and related literature.

Please bring items to the power pole in the inner parking lot behind the Sutchville station in September. If possible, please bring any small or valuable items to the attention of someone with access to secured storage or the office.

Volunteers (one or two) will be appreciated the morning of the auction both before and during the auction.

## Ghostly Apprentices Needed

By Eric Fields

As our annual Halloween Ghost Train Ride fast approaches, we are in need of a large number of apprentices to help with repair, set up **and** take down of this extensive production. Volunteers should contact Gary Baker at 626/926-4208 or Eric Fields at 818/231-9302.

### Fall Meet 2005 (Continued from page 1)

During the day on Saturday, enjoy running your train on the railroad. When you get hungry, enjoy lunch from the kitchen. Don't forget about our 1" and 3/4" railroads! We have one of the few left on the west coast. Also, vendors will be on hand to provide you with their expertise and quality products. Saturday night's dinner will be catered from StoneFire Grill; one of the valley's best catering companies! Dinner tickets are \$15.00 and will include barbeque chicken breast, tri-tip, beans, mashed potatoes, salad and their homemade breadsticks. Drink and dessert is included with dinner. After that, we will have "movies under the stars" and enjoy a great film with popcorn and friends.

On Sunday, we will enjoy more railroad time with friends and family. Once again, the kitchen will be open for lunch. In addition, we will have an adult's raffle and kids raffle souvenirs for sale as well as the President's Auction.

You may register for the Fall Meet on-line at [www.lals.org](http://www.lals.org) or by picking up a packet at the Museum. You may also order your dinner tickets on-line or by calling Fred Lack at 310/645-8369.

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

(Authority to Represent the Museum) was read. These three P&P's were accepted and will be posted in the ca-boose.

New Business: The Safety Program was discussed. Items discussed included radios, usage, frequencies, and signs. The Board heard a request for sediment filters. They should be provided by the individual members if wanted. The Board decided though to make sure that all boiler water hoses have hose ends so that a filter could be screwed in.

There have been complaints regarding unsupervised children. Also, several reptiles have been sighted within the Museum grounds. The President nominated and the Board approved a Nominating Committee consisting of Mel Bresee, Lew Soibelman, and Dick Brennan.

## No Bare Feet

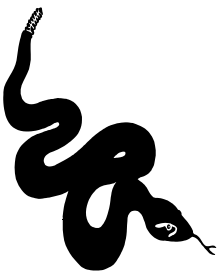
*By Donald Frozina*



It has come to my attention that several persons have recently been seen around the facility in bare feet. This is not a good way to travel around the facility as there are many sharp objects lying about. Please wear appropriate footwear when on the facility!

## Snakes and Skunks and Deer, Oh My!

*By Donald Frozina*



During these summer months, many creatures abound about the Museum grounds. This includes snakes, skunks and deer. Three rattle snakes have been seen. One at the west end by Travel Town, one in front of the restrooms and one behind the restrooms. Please be aware of your surroundings and watch your step!

Skunks are also abundant. Best to stay clear and give them the right-of-way, unless you're yearning for an aromatic adventure.

Deer have been seen in the early and late evenings. While cute to look at, also best stay clear of them.

## Model A's to Visit

*By Wilbur Dong*



LALSRM will be having a visit from the Arcadia A's, a Ford Model A club. This is an opportunity on September 18<sup>th</sup> (the 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday) to see some beautifully restored vehicles from the 20's and 30's, and talk with their owners. I could also use some help with crowd control. Contact Wilbur Dong, 626/799-2232.

## Pumpkin Patch Proliferates

*By Donald Frozina*



The pumpkin patch that Todd Moore and family donated and planted out on the west end has really taken hold! Todd and others have been

very dedicated at watering and nurturing these plants. The pumpkins will really look great at Halloween!

Some of the larger pumpkins have already been pulled from their vines. Please do not pick the pumpkins! They are to be used as decorations at Halloween.

## Fix the Tractor Fund

*By Mel Bresee*



As of August 1<sup>st</sup> the Museum's tractor was off to the hospital for a new clutch. This has happened because of a group of LALSRM members are interested in having it fixed and operating. This group, as shown below, has raised over \$1,200 to get the job completed. The

current estimate for the repairs is \$2,800. We need your help in raising funds to finish the job. Mel Bresee is the one collecting the donations, so give him your support to get our workhorse out of the hospital and back to the Museum.

Current Donors: Sam Calderwood, Dick Brennan, Gary Baker, Tom Downing, Eric Fields, Wolf Fengler, Don Frozina, Peter Fuad, Rory Hawkins and David Lazarus.