

# LALS ENGINE BOOSTER



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Celebrating 50 Years ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

January 2007

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## Sherwood Feted

By Donald Frozina  
Photo by Miles Kristman

At the October 20<sup>th</sup> kickoff of our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration, founding member, Gordon Sherwood, was honored for his help in establishing the Los Angeles Live Steamers back in 1956. Gordon is the only founding member who has continuously maintained his resident membership at the Museum since its founding! Robbin Lynn gave a moving PowerPoint presentation on Gordon's life with the Live Steamers, which was well received by those attending. Marty Rustan, special member and publisher of *The Toluca*, representing Councilmember Tom LaBonge of Los Angeles City, presented Gordon with a certificate of appreciation.



## Membership Renewals Due Soon

Individualized membership renewal forms were recently mailed out. *Everyone* needs to renew, including probationary members. *Be sure to check that your information is correct, if not, make the necessary changes!* If we haven't received your renewal by February 1<sup>st</sup>, your name will be dropped from the 2007 Roster. Note: You can also pay your dues by credit card, contact Steve Harris.

## Member Calendar

Jan 06 **Shed Clean & Move**  
**Change Directions**  
Jan 08 BOD Meeting  
Jan 27 Work Day  
Member Meeting

Feb 01 **Membership Renewals Due**  
Feb 05 BOD Meeting

*Board/General Meetings begins at 7 pm.*

## Public Service Schedule

Jan 07 Public Rides  
Jan 14 Public Rides  
Jan 21 Public Rides  
Disney Barn open  
Steam Plant open  
Jan 28 Public Rides  
Feb 04 Public Rides

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## Splinters from the Board

### December 4, 2006

By Peter Fuad

Leasing Shed Space to Steam Engine Owners. The Board approved a proposal to give members with Phil West Barn trackage who own steam engines the right to lease a second track for a one-year term in the Richardson or Alkire Sheds for their steam engines, regardless of work hours. In order to take advantage of this rule, such members must pledge to operate their steam engines in public hauling service and must sublease unused space on their Phil West Barn trackage to any member not able to lease space in the sheds because of this rule. Because of the disruptions in running this year and the lack of shed space, these members will have the right to lease open tracks in the sheds under this plan regardless of the number of hours they accumulated and in priority over other members who may have earned more hours. They will have the right to only lease the length of track required to store steam engines used in public hauling. This rule will be in effect for one year only, and will be reviewed at the end of next year to see its impact. For instance, an earned hour requirement might be imposed next year. The Board enacted this rule in view of the Museum's steam heritage and to promote the running of steam engines during public hauling hours. The current rule permitted members with Phil West Barn trackage to lease tracks in the Sheds only in a second round after all other members desiring such tracks, regardless of hours, were given priority in a first round.

Other Items. Don Frozina reported on safety. He reported on the take-home test that will be required in conjunction with annual membership renewal. The Board discussed, but failed to take action on, a requirement that members sign a waiver saying they will not sue the Museum, similar to a requirement of Train Mountain. Don announced trains would change direction the first weekend of January. John Smith indicated he had not been able to re-

## General Meeting Highlights

### November 18, 2006

By Donald Frozina

President Don Frozina called the meeting to order at 7:04 pm. Don called for any last minute ballots—there were none. Don then asked the membership if there were any objections to the Election Committee: Lew Soibelman, Dick Jensen and David Lazarus—there were none.

Don then reviewed the happenings at the November 16<sup>th</sup> BOD meeting, and then asked if there were any question—there were none. Don then recessed the meeting at 7:17 pm, to await the results from the Election Committee.

Don reconvened the meeting at 8:45 pm for the election results. Lew Soibelman announced that the following four persons were elected: Ron Bergmann, Doug Young, Time LaGaly and Les Kovacs. Lew also announced that the Tehachapi Loop measure failed to win the 2/3 votes necessary for passage (2/3 is required for a Bylaws change).

Don thanked the Election Committee for their work. Don then asked, again, if there were any questions. Leni Goldberg asked about braking standards. Don said that Wolf Fengler and the Safety Committee are working on a standard.

Don adjourned the meeting at 8:51 pm.

view his caretaker contract and promised he would deliver it signed by December 12.

With respect to the new center bench cars, Roger Bacon, reported for Gary Baker, that five cars were ready to be assembled by Donovan's subcontractor. Roger Bacon also presented a drawing of the proposed New Sherwood Station, which will now be presented to the City for their sign-off prior to commencing detailed plans. Don Frozina re-

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### 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 2006

**President**  
**Vice President**  
**Secretary**  
**Treasurer**

**Directors**



Ronald Bergmann  
Les Kovacs  
Peter Fuad  
John DePhillip Jr.

Wolf H. Fengler  
Tim LaGaly  
Todd Moore  
Doug Young

Phone 323/661-8958

FROM THE **General Superintendent**

By Tom Downing



On the day after Thanksgiving, Rob, Rory and I installed light fixtures; so now our American, State and Museum flags are lit up at night. I think it looks great. You can actually see them from the freeway. The November workday had a very small member turnout. We still managed to get the trees trimmed back from the Santa Fe caboose. This will allow Larry the painter, to get started on repainting it. It also gave us an opportunity to try out our new pole chainsaw and it worked great. It should be a big help in the future tree-trimming projects.

Lately, we have had a few groups of uninvited guests get in the Museum. After talking to them, we found out they just walked in the gate after a member had left. This is not the first time for one of the groups to do this. For security and safety purposes, if you see someone by the gate that you don't recognize, please inquire as to their purpose in a friendly manner or just wait until after the gate is closed before leaving. I will look into getting some signs for the gate.

We had a lot of fun during Small Scale Sunday. We had six trains running. Hopefully, this upswing in the small scales participation will continue to increase.

I would like to thank our outgoing Board members for assisting me on my many projects. Hopefully, their participation will continue on. I would like to wish all members and their families a HAPPY HOLIDAYS. Remember to leave some time in the New Year to come out to the Museum and participate in one of our many projects or functions.

## Small Scale Sunday January 21, 2006

By Chris Mahony



Small scale operators are once again encouraged to bring out the 1" or 3/4" equipment to run every third Sunday. This is a good time to run, with the Disney Barn and the Stationary Steam Plant open, plus with the public trains operating, your small scale equipment gets exposure that a lot of the public does not see. We would really like to see some of the 3/4" equipment out running! If you know of any friends, other Museum members, and members of other Southern California live steam clubs with 1" or smaller gauge equipment that is just gathering dust, tell them to come out.

Just because it is small, it does not mean it isn't mighty!

## President's Message

By Ron Bergmann



Since you will most likely be getting this before the holidays, let me wish everyone a great holiday and a happy New Year. By now, I am sure most of you know what the results of the Board election were. I was elected, along with Tim LaGaly, Les Kovacs, and Doug Young. At the last Board meeting, the incoming Board elected me President, Les as Vice-President, Peter Fuad as Secretary, and John DePhillip Jr. as your Treasurer. We are all looking forward to serving as your Board of Directors for the coming year.

I want to express my thanks to the outgoing Board members for their hard work during the last two years. Thank you Don Frozina, Gary Baker, Roger Bacon, and John Smith for your service to the LALSRM. Serving as a Board member is not an easy task, as I am sure they will attest to.

The coming year will be one of celebration with our 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary. In order to celebrate, we need to set some priorities for 2007 to ensure the Museum is prepared for the party. My priorities will be finishing the Sutchville Yard and bringing the Smith Valley Line up to public hauling standards. I also want to reopen the Country Kitchen for Sunday lunch.

The next General Membership Meeting, on January 27, 2007 will be one for member feedback. The Board is interested in your ideas and concerns. I would like to see every member there. Please attend the January meeting. It should be a good one.

Think positively and VOLUNTEER. We need track workers and Sunday crews. Make LALSRM the place YOU want it to be.

## Shed Clean and Move Day

By Steve Harris



On Saturday January 6<sup>th</sup> from **10 am to 12 noon**, all shed renters should come down and help clean up their areas to help improve the safety and appearance of the facility. The Shed Manager will be there to help facilitate the change over of tracks, change locks as

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## Who's Been Workin' on the RR

Nov. 6 — Dec. 9

Casey, Kyle      Heiman, Gene x2  
Casey, Michael      Hritz, John  
Downing, Tom x4

## Training Classes

**Safety:** 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday of January. *Station Master/Safety Coordinator* class at 2 pm. This is an hour hands-on class. (Level I is the prerequisite for this class.)

**Conductor:** Want to learn to be a conductor? Call Roger Bacon at 818/887-0898 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. Note: You must have completed both your Level II and Level I safety training to attend this class.

## For Sale

**0-4-0 type industrial switcher.** 1½" scale, electric engine DRGW #57. Great starter locomotive. Excellent condition, powerful little engine. Level II compliant. Built by John Smith 2 years ago, it has 4 electric motors, working headlight, horn, side rods, and control box. I am including one battery charger and a Plum Cove Studios flatcar painted for Southern Pacific. Asking price \$2,700. Contact Doug Ward, 818/248-6330.

**Railroad Supply-type industrial switcher.** 1½" scale, 25 ton Chessie engine #208. Great starter engine. Excellent condition, outstanding hauler. LALSRM compliant. Proven reliability. Has a 4 HP Kohler 4-cycle motor, hydrostatic transmission, working lights, dimmable headlamp, and all wheel drive. Priced to sell, only \$3,000. Contact Diana or Glen Manchester, 626/798-7189 or 626/222-6147.

**Tank car,** 1½" scale. \$400. Contact Dick Jensen, 310/326-5850.

## Engineers and Conductors November 2006

<u>Date/Passengers</u>	<u>Engineer</u>	<u>Conductor</u>	<u>Owner</u>
11/05/2006 840 passengers	Bernie Harris Peter Fuad Doug Ward Thaine Morris	John Gwatley Bob Quinn Bob Crone Peter Fowler	S. Harris Fuad LALSRM Morris
Track Inspectors: Donald Frozina, Bernie Harris Safety Coordinator: Leni Goldberg Station Master: Donald Frozina Station Assistant: Pat Miller			
11/12/2006 826 passengers	Peter Fuad Ron Bergmann Ted Naimy Dave Held Fred Lack	Bob Quinn J. DePhillip Sr./S. Benedict Gene Heiman Larry Mitchell Bob Quinn	Fuad Bergmann Naimy LALSRM Fuad
Track Inspector: Peter Fuad Safety Coordinator: Roger Bacon Station Master: Roger Bacon Station Assistant: Pat Miller			
11/19/2006 821 passengers	Peter Fuad Peter Fowler Roger Bacon Fred Lack	Bob Quinn Rory Hawkins Mike Capolupo Bob Quinn	Fuad Morris LALSRM LALSRM
Track Inspectors: Donald Frozina, Peter Fuad Safety Coordinator: Leni Goldberg Station Masters: Donald Frozina, Roger Bacon Station Assistants: Pat Miller, Larry Mitchell			
11/26/2006 818 passengers	Bernie Harris Thaine Morris Peter Fuad Ron Bergmann	L. Mitchell/C. Mahony/ M. Casey/S. Harris Peter Fowler Bob Quinn John DePhillip Sr.	S. Harris Morris Fuad Bergmann
Track Inspectors: Steve Harris, Bernie Harris Safety Coordinator: Steve Harris Station Masters: Leni Goldberg, Roger Bacon			
3,305	Total passengers for month		
32,273	Total passengers to date		

*Best Wishes  
for the  
New Year!*

**Splinters** (Continued from page 2)

ported the new convection oven approved by the Board at the last meeting had been purchased for approximately \$2,700. It will be stored until the kitchen is reconfigured.

The Board voted to confirm that the role of Safety Coordinator and Station Master must be handled by two separate persons during public hauling. To encourage members to assume those roles, two hours of shed credit will be given for each hour worked.

The Board confirmed there would be public hauling on Christmas Eve and New Year's Eve, which are both Sundays this year. Don summarized the recent meeting of the Museum's Advisory Committee, which will meet shortly with Travel Town personnel to discuss their proposed extension of the trail track. The Board voted to purchase additional tie stock in an amount not exceeding \$8,000.

Leonard Evans and David Lazarus presented the latest version of the Museum's 50th Anniversary design to be silk screened on jackets. The design was approved by the Board.

An FCR submitted by Lew Soibelman to plant nine new trees at a cost of not more than \$550 as approved for submittal to the general membership.

Steven Harris announced receiving an application for new resident member Gregory McMurry.

New Policy & Procedure. The Board approved a new Policy & Procedure restricting the storage and display of personal equipment on steaming bays and sidings. Essentially, members may not store or display their equipment on steaming bays and sidings overnight except during multi-day runs, meets, while being repaired or serviced or with the consent of the President on an exception basis.

2007 Officers. The current Board briefly recessed while the 2007 Board elected its officers for the coming year:

Ron Bergman, President  
Les Kovacs, Vice President  
Peter Fuad, Secretary  
John DePhillip Jr., Treasurer

**Shed** (Continued from page 3)

necessary, and issue combinations/keys. Please try to be there as close to 10 am as possible to help expedite the moves and as a courtesy to the others. Additionally, just a reminder that Shed rental payments are due December 31<sup>st</sup> and can be paid by cash, check, Visa or MasterCard. If you wish to pay by credit card, please contact the Shed Manager.

**Nixon Library Display  
Holiday Festival of Trains**

By Steve Waller  
Photo by Steve Waller

I just wanted to thank Lew Soibelman and David Lazarus for their efforts on the Nixon Library "Holiday Festival of Trains". It's a big hit and is generating a lot of good publicity for the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum. Lew loaned his Santa Fe observation car for the duration of the exhibit, which runs through January 7, 2007.



The TV news may have over-hyped the exhibit a bit. The Library has been calling the exhibit "the largest Holiday Train layout ever built", not "the largest collection of miniature trains ever assembled". KCAL Channel 9, KCBS Channel 2 and KABC Channel 7 have covered the exhibit.

For more information, visit the Library's website at [www.nixonfoundation.org](http://www.nixonfoundation.org).

**50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Jackets**

By David Lazarus

Just a reminder, that throughout 2007 you can send in your Dickies® jacket for silk screening and embroidery. The cost of the silk screening and embroidery has been reduced to only \$17 per jacket!

You can purchase jackets at JC Penney or OSH, or online at [www.dickies.com](http://www.dickies.com), or at [www.workingperson.com](http://www.workingperson.com). You will need to order only these styles:

JT15 Lined Eisenhower jacket in navy color

JT75 Unlined Eisenhower jacket in navy color

Be sure to place a paper in the front pocket with your name, address, and the name you want embroidered on the front of the jacket. For more information, send an e-mail David Lazarus at [jackets@lals.org](mailto:jackets@lals.org).

## Election Results

By Donald Frozina

On Saturday, November 18, 2006, the Museum held an election for directors and a Bylaws change. The Election Committee consisted of Lew Soibelman, Dick Jensen and David Lazarus. The Election Committee was approved by the members attending the Annual General Membership Meeting prior to them opening the envelopes. The results of the election were as follows. Only the top four vote-getters are elected. Congratulations all!

<u>Directors*</u>	<u>Vote Total</u>	<u>Rank</u>	<u>Status</u>
Ron Bergmann	134	1	Elected
Bonnie Kaufman	39	5	
Les Kovacs	107	4	Elected
Tim LaGaly	121	3	Elected
Steve Pike	17	6	
Doug Young	128	2	Elected

\* candidates with only one vote not reported here.

<u>Bylaws Change**</u>	<u>Yes</u>	<u>% Yes</u>	<u>No</u>	<u>% No</u>	<u>Status</u>
Tehachapi Loop Fund	77	53.8%	66	46.2%	Failed

\*\* 2/3 vote required for passage of a Bylaws change.

## Webb-Stutson Run Review

By Roger Bacon  
Photo by Miles Kristman

Once again the Webb-Stutson Run on 9/30 was a great success! Thanks go to a great group of LALSRM members who showed up to help: Amy and Chris Mahony, Frank O'Donnell and his son Alex ran the kitchen flawlessly. Lew and Bernice Soibelman popped popcorn all day. Mike Romanucci oversaw the gate. A thank you to the Station crew: Donald Frozina, Steve Harris, and all the train crews: Lloyd Davis, Miles Kristman, Gene Heiman, Steve Ruatta, Jim Baker, Roberto Lopez and Mike Capolupo.



## Holiday Party Highlights

By Donald Frozina

On December 16, 2006, at 6 pm, thirty-three members, including their spouses and some of their children, began gathering at Tony's Bella Vista Italian Restaurant in Burbank. At 7 pm, a delicious buffet feast, consisting of Italian and Caesar salads, various types of pizza, chicken involentini, baked meat lasagna, meatballs and sausage, penne pasta in meat sauce, and cannoli cake, was served.

At 8 pm, outgoing President, Don Frozina, called the meeting to order. Don thanked Shira Bush for her marvelous job in coordinating our holiday party. Don then reviewed the happenings at the December BOD meeting and emphasized the Board's decision to accommodate those with steamers, which use them to haul the public, with shed space in the Alkire or Richardson Sheds. The group also voted on an FCR to plant nine trees (some to replace dead trees, and some new trees) that was submitted by Lew Soibelman, and that was approved at the last BOD meeting. The vote was unanimously in favor of this FCR.

Next Don thanked and handed out forty certificates of appreciation (not all were present) to those members who had made outstanding contributions to the Museum in 2006.

Don called up continuing Director Wolf Fengler and President-elect Ron Bergmann and Director-elect Tim LaGaly and the thanked them in advance for their service in 2007, then handed President-elect Ron Bergmann the myriad of keys to Museum.

President Ron Bergmann thanked the outgoing BOD members: Don Frozina, Gary Baker, Roger Bacon and John Smith for their service these last two years. Ron said that the BOD is interested in your ideas and concerns and wants every member to attend the General Membership Meeting on January 27, 2007 to get their feedback.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 pm.

## New Live Steam Magazine

By Donald Frozina

*The Home Railway Journal* is published by a home rail-roader for home railroaders. Contents include home railroads in various scales, construction projects, "Quick Pick" weekend-long projects, product news and fun facts about prototype railroads.

Delivered four time a year. For information or subscriptions, visit [www.homerailwayjournal.com](http://www.homerailwayjournal.com) or call 916/363-6620.