

LALS ENGINE BOOSTER



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

May 2007

www.lals.org

Vol. XLII, No. V

50th Anniversary Meet Fast Approaches

By Gary Baker



Our Spring Meet is just around the corner and your Museum is in full swing preparing the facility for a spectacular Memorial Day weekend. We want to encourage all of you as LALS SRM members along with your families and friends; and all of our friends and hobbyists from all of the other railroad clubs to come out and visit for a great weekend of Fellowship, Food, and Fun as we celebrate the height of our 1-year 50th Anniversary celebration! Bring your trains, 'cause we will have the tracks ready for 1½", 1", and ¾" scales. Wait till you see all the new track

and what the track crew has done to Webb Yard and the new Sutchville Station area. It has been almost 18 months in the making and it is great! The 1" scale has made lots of improvements too and will be hosting many friends from Germany as special guests! We've spent over a year painting, fixing, and improving the facility for all of you to come and enjoy!

If you are planning to camp overnight, on Friday plan to come on down and bring your tents, RV's and other camping equipment if you choose. Check in at the rear service gate with Tom Lang and his great group of volunteers, get a welcome ID Tag, and then plan to park your equipment. This year we are creating a new position; Mel Bresee has graciously agreed to be our Meet Dispatcher. He and his team will arrange for you to have a private parking space on the tracks for your train equipment. We are asking each train equipment owner

(Continued on page 6)

Member Calendar

Apr. 28	Work Day Member Meeting
May 07	BOD Meeting
May 19*	Work Day Member Meeting
May 25-28	Spring Meet
Jun. 02	City of Hope Run
Jun. 04	BOD Meeting

Board/General Meetings begins at 7 pm.
* Special date due to Meet

Public Service Schedule

Apr. 22	Public Rides
Apr. 29	Public Rides
May 06	Public Rides
May 13	Public Rides
May 20	Public Rides
	Small Scales Sunday Disney Barn Open Steam Plant Open
Jun. 03	Public Rides

City of Hope Run

Members are still needed to assist with the annual City of Hope Cancer Survivors Day get-together. At least four train crews—engineers and conductors—along with many others are needed. This will be on Saturday, June 2, 2007 from 10 am to 3 pm. Come on out and lend a hand for a great cause! Lunch provided for crews and workers. Shed credit given. Contact Dan O'Brien for more info.

In This Issue

Car Brakes News	3
Engineers and Conductors	4
General Superintendent	3
Kitchen Fund Raiser Set	3
President's Message	3
Splinters from the Board	2

Splinters from the Board

April 2, 2007

By Peter Fuad

General Superintendent's Report. Tom Downing, general superintendent, reported that the cleanup campaign continues, and the Board approved funds to continue the work. The Board approved the painting of the clock tower, two sheds, signal tower and electrical cabinet, and confirmed its earlier authorization to paint the office caboose.

In view of the upcoming fire season, the Board directed that buckets filled with sand be placed along the right of way and approved procuring portable fire extinguishers to be placed in each club locomotive and caboose. Tim LaGaly will recharge Museum fire extinguishers as needed. The Board also approved purchasing new hoses, hose bibs and ball valves to ensure water with adequate pressure is available on all parts of the layout. The Board authorized keeping the east parking lot striped with powder to ensure keeping a fire lane open. Disney Barn volunteers have pledged to refresh the striping on a regular basis.

Facilities. Roger Bacon, FCR Chairman, reported on progress on the Sutchville Station canopy. Awnings have been installed on the replacement station structure with sheet metal donated by Steve Altmayer. Whether the sheet metal should be painted will be determined after the Spring Meet. The Board approved funds to finish out the new Kountry Kitchen configuration, which will be supervised by Bonnie Kaufman. The project will be completed by the Spring Meet. The Board also authorized funds to repair the handicapped shower. John de Phillip Jr. reported on work on the Sutchville Yard reconfiguration and thanked the many members who have worked on that project.

Safety. Safety Chairman Wolf Fengler reported on his discussions with Mark Hanlon on revisiting the weight stan-

dards on the center bench cars used to haul the public. He will work with the Safety Committee on developing alternative measurements, standards and tests. President Ron Bergmann and Vice President Les Kovacs emphasized the need to have Incident Coordinators and Station Masters whenever we are hauling the public.

Operations. Willie Wilhelm noted that operators of the electric locomotive had failed to recharge it after use. After discussion, Willie volunteered to develop an operations checklist to be placed next to the locomotive.

Spring Meet. Gary Baker reported on various suggestions made at the last general meeting regarding the Spring Meet. He noted that workers at the gate will be especially important in view of the insurance requirement that the general public will not be admitted this year. (Members are still needed to staff the gate-see the checklist in the Kountry Kitchen or contact Tom Lang.) David Lazarus reported that he arranged for a photographer to take a panoramic photo at the meet on Saturday afternoon. Mel Breeze will arrange for dispatchers to assign trackage for visiting equipment to ensure adequate space. Recreational vehicles will be permitted beginning Wednesday afternoon.

New resident member Tom Harwood was introduced. Liz Calderwood was approved as a special member in appreciation of her work at the concession stand on Sundays. Party requests were approved for Paul Secord, Jon Newbill and Larry Milukhin. A change in the date for the Toy Train event to August 18 was also approved.

Rosters Available Soon for Pickup

Your 2007 *Roster* will be available for pickup around the beginning of the month. See Dick Jensen for availability,

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 composed 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:

Donald Frozina 2132 Bend Ave. Lancaster, CA 93535
E-mail: booster@lals.org Fax: 310/302-4111

Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum Board of Directors 2006

President
Vice President
Secretary
Treasurer

Directors



Ronald Bergmann
Les Kovacs
Peter Fuad
John De Phillip Jr.

Wolf H. Fengler
Tim LaGaly
Todd Moore
Doug Young

Phone 323/661-8958

FROM THE **General Superintendent**

By Tom Downing



I had a dream. I'm standing at a station platform. I looked around, I think the station looks brand new. I hear an engine whistle in the distance. I look up at the schedule board and I see "50th SPECIAL" in big letters. Next thing I know the telegraph is just singing away. So I asked station agent Roger, "What's up". He tells me that conductor Gary sent a message that says since the last crew change, the hoghead got sick, and that the fireman and brakemen are running the show. But the hoghead is looking better and should be back up on the plate before they come in.

Now I'm a little nervous because you see this special train was out on the end of our line when a big storm hit us. At the time of the storm, I was just an engineer running a Foreney on a MW job. The railroad president asked if I could come out of the engine cab and be superintendent. Fortunately, I got some people to roll their sleeves and help get the line opened. Well, you know our rail is light and this train is big and heavy, right at our rail limit, the last time I saw it stop at the station. So I've got my fingers crossed.

This is going to be a good test for our railroad and the people that help run it. Oh look, I see a band setting up and a man wearing a top hat. My son tells me the railroad president always wears a top hat. I guess if you're waiting to see how this dream ends you will just have to come out to our 50th Anniversary Meet, or better yet, volunteer for one of many jobs that need doing to make it a huge success.

Remember, always play trains safely.

Car Brakes News

By Willie Wilhelm



The new O'Brien Trucks are being installed on the Red and Maroon car sets. The brake system has an individual car brake control feature incorporated. This feature provides brake capability when a car is disconnected from the train. This is convenient when putting the cars away and you want to prevent a car from rolling. The nomenclature

"Dump" has been eliminated and the more descriptive "Run-Park/Rel." used. The system works by closing the car air tank off when the brake valve is in the "Rel." position. This retains air for subsequent braking. When the valve is in the "Run-Park" position the car brakes are applied. There is enough tank capacity for about three brake applications.

This feature has been installed on all of the Red cars and Maroon car CB007. This change will be made on the remaining two Maroon cars soon with the installation of the new trucks. As we get time, the yellow and blue cars will also have this feature incorporated.

President's Message

By Ron Bergmann



I am back! For those of you who do not know, I underwent quadruple bypass surgery on February 5th after suffering chest pains. Recovery is progressing well. I am not at 100% yet, but I am getting stronger. I spent several hours at the Museum last Sunday,

April 1st, and chaired the Board meeting the following night.

It has been a tough two months and I want to thank all the members who called and/or sent cards. It is always nice to know you are missed. I want to also thank Vice President Les Kovacs for taking over the reins for the last two months. He has been a great help to me as it allowed me to make my recovery the priority it needed.

The response from the members after my surgery reaffirmed my belief that we all have a lot of friends at LALSRM. I know not everyone gets along with everyone all the time. Sometimes we have disagreements and sometimes we don't all go in exactly the same direction. That, you see, is the beauty of an organization like LALSRM. We all have different skills and ideas. Through disagreement and different ideas, we benefit as we forge ahead. Some of our best accomplishments have resulted from members having different ideas, which spawned innovation and resourcefulness. Be tolerant of different points of view.

The 50th Anniversary Meet is less than two months away now. Sutchville Yard is nearing completion and the Smith Valley Line is being brought up to public hauling standards. The Museum should be in great condition by Memorial Day weekend. We still need your help to complete some of the tasks to put us in tip top shape for our visitors. The 50th has generated a lot of interest around the country and should prove to be a fantastic event.

I look forward to getting back "into the swing of things". Happy railroading!

Kitchen Fund Raiser Set

By Bonnie Kaufman & Christopher Mahony



On Small Scale Sunday, May 20th, the kitchen will be open with a special donation style lunch. Please plan to join us in this "eatable" fund raiser for the kitchen. The March menu of meatball sandwiches, salads, cookies, cake and lemonade was a hit. What will it be next time? Only the kitchen staff knows for sure...

Who's Been Workin' on the RR Dec. 10—Jan. 8

Baker, Jim x3	Downing, Wyatt x2
Berg, Ginny	Frozina, Donald
Berg, Ted	Heiman, Gene x2
Crone, Bob x2	Mahony, Chris
Davis, Lloyd	Westphal, Charles
DeRosa, John	Westphal, Collin
Downing, Tom x3	

Training Classes

No training classes are scheduled for May due to the 50th Anniversary Meet.

For Sale

Electric locomotive and riding car.

This set is designed to be easily handled by one person with a small car. Powerful, reliable, and batteries included! This item will be made available Sunday at the Spring Meet and interested parties should contact Joe Powell at tymmchn@earthlink.net or 702/434-8710 for pictures/questions/etc. This engine tested very well at Maricopa Live Steamers during their Spring Meet. Asking \$2,000.

Eaton #11 hydrostatic transmission and mounting bracket for Kohler 8 HP engine, \$350. Contact John De Phillip Jr., 818/241-5385.

Railroad Supply-type industrial switcher. 1½" scale, 25 ton Chessie engine #208. Great starter engine. Excellent condition, outstanding hauler. LALS RM 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, \$400. 1½" scale. Contact Dick Jensen, 310/326-5850.

Engineers and Conductors March 2007

<u>Date/Passengers</u>	<u>Engineer</u>	<u>Conductor</u>	<u>Owner</u>
03/04/2007 1,008 passengers	Ron Tarjany Ted Naimy Rory Hawkins Thaine Morris Peter Fuad Doug Ward	Gail Woodward Ray Secara Donna Valencia Pete Fowler Bob Quinn Bob Crone	B. Woodward Naimy Hawkins Morris Fuad LALS RM

Track Inspector: Ron Tarjany
Safety Coordinator: John De Phillip Jr.
Station Master: Roger Bacon
Station Assistant: Ray Secara

03/11/2007 828 passengers	Ron Tarjany Peter Fuad Al Way Thaine Morris Ted Naimy	Gail Woodward Bob Quinn Gene Heiman Pete Fowler Roberto Lopez	B. Woodward Fuad Way Morris Naimy
------------------------------	---	---	---

Track Inspector: Wolf H. Fengler
Safety Coordinator: Wolf H. Fengler
Station Master: Donald Frozina
Station Assistant: Pat Miller

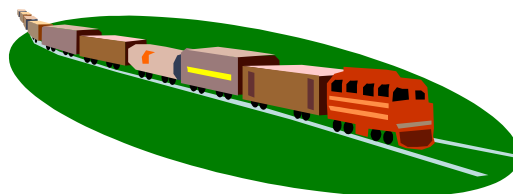
03/18/2007 856 passengers	Ron Tarjany Peter Fuad Gary Baker Al Way Fred Lack	Gail Woodward Bob Quinn S. Ruatta/E. Fields John De Phillip Jr. Bill Barbe	B. Woodward Fuad LALS RM Way Newbill
------------------------------	--	--	--

Track Inspector: Ron Tarjany
Safety Coordinator: John De Phillip Jr.
Station Master: Roger Bacon
Station Assistant: Pat Miller

03/25/2007 1,000 passengers	Al Way Thaine Morris Peter Fuad Bob Crone Ted Naimy Peter Nott Bernie Harris	Roberto Lopez Pete Fowler Bob Quinn Mike Murphy Ron Tarjany D. Lazarus/D. Ward Jill Miller	Way Morris Fuad Solak Naimy Nott S. Harris
--------------------------------	--	--	--

Track Inspector: Al Way
Safety Coordinator: Steve Harris
Station Masters: Gene Heiman, Roger Bacon
Station Assistants: Ron Tarjany, Doug Ward

3,692 Total passengers for month
10,697 Total passengers to date



Attention: All Smaller Scales Equipment Owners

By John DeRosa & Christopher Mahony

We would like to see as much of the smaller scales equipment as we can muster on the track for the Spring Meet. Being that this is the 50th Anniversary Meet of the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum, a lot of the original equipment was in the 3/4 or 1" scales when the tracks opened so long ago. There is still a lot of member's equipment that we would like to see, running or not. Let us make this one of the best smaller scales gathering that LALSRLM has ever seen!



50th Anniversary Meet (Continued from page 1)

to just do a simple self-inspection form for each piece of equipment that you bring, and you are good to go. It's that simple. We just want all of you to enjoy a safe weekend!

Your meet chairs: Gary Baker, Les Kovacs, Sam and Liz Calderwood, and Chris Solak, along with many dedicated volunteers, have been hard at work planning a fun Anniversary weekend!

Here are some of the highlights:

OK, so we've turned 50! Liz Calderwood and Patty Fogarty will bring back the Nifty Fifties with a Juke Box Friday Night Presidents Welcome "Dinner for a Dollar!" featuring a blue plate spaghetti special at 5 pm. Eric Fields has volunteered to muster up gobs of his special sauce to crown your meal, along with Italian sausage, cheese rolls, and salad. All we ask is that you bring a big appetite, a dollar per person, and a dessert to share! There may even be a few special surprises! So bring out those white T-shirts, jeans, white socks, poodle skirts, and skin-tight pedal pushers, slick back your hair or put it in a big bouffant and lets party! There will be a special prize for the best outfit!

Saturday morning breakfast will be served in our newly remodeled kitchen facility which was a huge project taken on by Bonnie Kaufman and her Women in Railroading team. They plan to have great meals for you and the kitchen will look very special for the meet thanks to Bonnie and the girls. It's a surprise so you will just have to come and see it. Also please thank them for hosting the kitchen this entire weekend when you see them!

Saturday continues with a host of vendors attending whom will have lots of railroad related products for you to see, talk about, and purchase. A special LALSRM commemorative 50th Anniversary FRED is being created and will be available for purchase along with a special button, and our special Anniversary T-shirts. Be sure to get one of each! LALSRM members can purchase a special "Train Crew" insignia design on the pocket of the T-shirt.

Discussion on a special embroidered 50th Anniversary jacket has sparked much interest. We will have one on display along with a sample jacket printed with the logo. More details on that later.

After lunch at 2 pm, David Lazarus will be staging our 50th Anniversary panoramic photo—just like our Meets in the late 50's and early 60's—in the new Webb Yard/Sutchville Station area! Our plan is to fill every inch of available space with your railroad equipment along with all your families and friends. This will take some time to stage, so we will start getting the equipment in place during lunch.

We want all of you to have a chance to experience this once-in-a-lifetime "Kodak Moment", so bring out your equipment and become a part of history!

Saturday evening we will host our "Evening Under The Stars Dinner Dance" featuring Wolfgang A. Fongler and the fabulous *Esquires* Big Band of great 40's style music. The catered dinner will be \$15.00 for advance purchase tickets, and will feature barbecued chicken and ribs or tri-tip along with all the sides, dessert and a beverage. A sign-up sheet will be in the kitchen one month in advance and you can also call Gary Baker at 323/666-7279 to reserve your ticket. Cutoff is 2 pm the day of the event, so please make your reservation early! Tickets will be available for pick up at the souvenir stand. There will be a special presentation following dinner, so please plan to attend. As evening falls, LALSRM lights up for a nighttime train run. Enjoy the sights along the rails along with the big band music in the background.

Sunday morning breakfast will be served and then the vendors will be in full swing again networking with all of you as fellow hobbyists. The "Harvey Girls" will have delicious baked goods both days. The Disney Barn will be open featuring special guests and memorabilia and the Steam Plant will be operating; where you can experience the thrill of steam powering authentic machinery, as the factories used to do. Kids of all ages can blow the steam whistle, and munch on free popcorn while listening to the band organ.

Trains of all shapes and sizes will be running all day along with a special operating elevated layout of Gauge 1 live steam trains. Del Oro Pacific will possibly be paying us a visit displaying and operating their spectacular G Scale layout. Mike Houston will have our G Scale layout operating also for all of you who enjoy bringing your G Scale equipment to run.

Our German sister-organization, REC (Rossdorfer Eisenbahn Club) will be hosting a special meal designed by one of their members who is the head chef of Lufthansa Airlines, as a special 50th Anniversary treat in the kitchen.

Well, these are just some of the highlights of our 50th Anniversary bash! We only have six Saturdays to finish getting the facility ready, but we have many dedicated members who I know will show up to give us a very needed hand, spiffing up the place in time for all of you to enjoy this very special Happy and Fun Birthday!

Our next month's *Engine Booster* will be out only two weeks prior to the Meet, and we will have more highlights at that time. In the meantime, please come down to the Museum in this final six weeks and help us get ready!

See you on the rails!