



★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Celebrating 50 Years ★ ★ ★ ★ ★
 December 2007 www.lals.org Vol. XLII, No. XII

President’s Message

The Halloween run was a huge success. Due to my father passing away in Chicago, I was unable to be here for the first three nights. I worked five of the last six nights and found the people who came out to ride and view our display were extremely appreciative of the outstanding effort. I missed several years of the Halloween run and I was amazed at the complexity and the quality of the entire experience. I want to thank all the members who made it possible. It took a lot of hard work to set the exhibits up and maintain them.

I also want to apologize to Gary Baker and Thane Morris, on behalf of the Board, for the unfortunate choice of words the acting secretary used in the Booster last month regarding Gary and Thane’s request for funding. There was no demand made. The Board asked them to continue this year after many years of doing it for free. The Board negotiated with them and we made a proposal. They consented and our event was a hit.

The Board election for four new members is underway and may be completed by the time you read this. We have eight good candidates. Please vote and then attend the General Membership Meeting on November 17 to see who gets elected. The direction and management of the Museum is a direct result of who YOU elect. Exercise your right to vote for the candidates of your choice. Don’t forget the Holiday Party and Installation Dinner on December 15 at Tony’s Bella Vista in Burbank.

I have mentioned before about a lack of volunteerism at the Museum. That lack was not evident during the Halloween run. We had more than enough trains running and I thank you for that. Now, if we could just get someone to step up to the plate and take the General Superintendent position, the Museum would be better off with someone to channel the volunteer efforts to keep the facility in great shape.

Happy railroading.
 Ron Bergmann

The Editorial Staff of the Booster would like to wish every member of the Los Angeles Live Steamer Railroad Museum a wonderful Holiday Season, and a joyous New Year.



Member Calendar

- Dec. 03 BOD Meeting
- Dec. 15 Holiday Party & Officer Installation
- Dec. 22 Work Day

Public Service Calendar

- Dec. 02 Sunday Public
- Dec. 09 Sunday Public
- Dec. 16 Sunday Public
 Disney Barn open
 Small Scale Sunday
 Steam Plant open
- Dec. 23 Sunday Public
- Dec. 30 Sunday Public

Holiday Party!

By Shira Bush

The LALSRRM Holiday Party & Installation will be held on the night of December 15th at Tony’s Bella Vista Restaurant in Burbank. Dinner will be approximately \$29 per person.

Deadline for reservations is December 4th.

Please be a part of this evening. For further information, call 818-761-0263

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Splinters from the Board

By Peter Fuad

At the November 5, 2007 LALSRM Board meeting, Membership Chairman Steve Harris announced two new members, Rob Nuccio from Studio City (present) and Bill Marshall from Toluca Lake.

Steve also announced that shed credit rental hours for the year ending October 31 have been computed and new shed rental leases will be sent out shortly.

Safety Chairman Wolf Fengler said he would be electronically inspecting the new coated coupler knuckles to determine wear.

President Ron Bergmann reported that ballots have been mailed out to members to vote in the upcoming Board election. Votes are due by the beginning of the November 17 annual meeting.

Ron also noted that a less expensive security camera and recording system has been located at Costco. Eleven security cameras will be located throughout the facility at strategic locations. Funds already raised for the project are sufficient to pay for the acquisition of this system.

The Board reviewed the results of the Halloween Run, which was determined to be very successful. Over 6,000 rides were given over nine nights. The Board and audience thanked and applauded Gary Baker and Thaine Morris for heading the Run and other Museum members who also helped set up, maintain and disassemble displays for contributing to its success. The new and innovative displays were lauded.

A committee composed of Steve Harris, chairman, and Miles Kristman, Alan Way, Chris Solak and Rory Hawkins was appointed to review and recommend whether the Museum's current program for awarding shed rental credit should be revised to ensure that the

categories of credits and "bonus" hours awarded for performing certain tasks were equitable and necessary.

Ron mentioned that he has been in contact with professional photographer Eric Curry in connection with procuring steam locomotives for his upcoming photography session at the Museum, for which a date has not yet been set.

David Lazarus reported on the three signal bridges being proposed at the two ends of Web Yard and near Sutchville Station. He reviewed obtaining and fabricating the necessary steel, signal lights and in particular semaphores, which will be installed over certain tracks.

Ron reported the death of former LALSRM member David Thompson in Yuma, Arizona, on October 8. David joined the Museum in 1967 and was a member for many years.

Election Results November 2007

The first four candidates have been elected to the Board of Directors.

<u>Name</u>	<u>Number of votes</u>
1. John Friend	93
2. David Holman	91
3. Steve Altmayer	84
4. Charles Westphal	84
5. John Goulding	53
6. Alan Way	35
7. Bernie Harris	28
8. Chris Solak	21
Write-ins:	
9. Danni Smith	5
10. John Smith	1

Honorary membership for Dick Jensen Passed

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/track 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 Christopher Mahony and is produced on a Mac 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:

Christopher Mahony, 17842 Hiawatha St. Granada Hills, CA 91344
E-mail: booster@lals.org Fax: 818-677-5602

Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum Board of Directors 2007

President	Ronald Bergmann
Vice President	Les Kovacs
Secretary	Peter Fuad
Treasurer	John De Phillip Jr.
Directors	Wolf H. Fengler Tim LaGaly Todd Moore Doug Young



Phone 323/661-8958

Metrolink Holiday Toy Express

Schedule:

NOVEMBER

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 17

CORONA 5:00 p.m.
RIVERSIDE 6:45 p.m.
RIVERSIDE-LA SIERRA
7:45 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 18

RANCHO CUCAMONGA

5:00 p.m.
FONTANA 6:00 p.m.
RIALTO 7:00 p.m.
SAN BERNARDINO
7:45 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 23

NEWHALL 7:30 p.m.
SYLMAR/SAN FERNANDO
8:30 p.m.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 24

PEDLEY 5:00 p.m.
EAST ONTARIO 5:50 p.m.
DOWNTOWN POMONA
6:45 p.m.

INDUSTRY 7:35 p.m.
MONTEBELLO/COMMERCE
8:30 p.m.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 25

COVINA 5:00 p.m.
CLAREMONT 6:30 p.m.
MONTCLAIR 7:15 p.m.
UPLAND 8:00 p.m.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30

BUENA PARK 6:45 p.m.
NORWALK/ SANTA FE SPRINGS
7:35 p.m.

DECEMBER

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 1

ANAHEIM 5:15 p.m.
ORANGE 6:00 p.m.
SANTA ANA 7:00 p.m.
FULLERTON 8:30 p.m.

Engineers and Conductors Part 2

October 2007

<u>Date/Passengers</u>	<u>Engineer</u>	<u>Conductor</u>	<u>Owner</u>
October 26/792 (night run)	A. Way P. Fuad G. Baker P. Fowler J. Newbill S. Harris	K. Jung R. Lopez J. Hritz R. Nelson D. Newbill C. Westphal	Way Fuad LALS Morris Newbill Harris
	Track Inspector: C. Mohr/ T. Morris Safety Coordinator: C. Mohr Station Masters: C. Westphal/ S. Pike Station Assistants: J. De Phillips Sr/R. Fogarty		
October 27/747 (night run)	P. Fowler A. Way G. Baker/S. Pike J. Newbill T. Naimy R. Hawkins A. Held G. Baker	R. Nelson K. Jung J. & R. Secura C. Westphal J. Bass D. Valencia D. Manchester G. Manchester	Morris Way LALS Newbill Naimy Hawkins O'Brien Baker
	Track Inspector: C. Mohr/ T. Morris Safety Coordinator: C. Mohr Station Master: R. Bacon Station Assistants: J. De Phillips Sr., J De Phillips Jr., S. Bass, J. Bass, R. Fogarty, C. Westphal		
October 28/862	A. Way P. Fuad D. O'Brien L. Mitchell R. Bacon	K. Jung B Quinn C. Westphal R. Secara R. Nelson	Way Fuad O'Brien Mitchell LALS
	Track Inspectors: R. Bergmann/A. Way Safety Coordinator: R. Bergmann Station Masters: J. De Phillips Sr., C. Westphal Station Assistants: C. Westphal, S. Rodstein, R. Secara		
October 28/915 (night run)	P. Fowler S. Harris J. DeRosa G. Baker A. Way S. Pike	R. Nelson J. Bass C. Mahony J. Hritz K. Jung R. Lopez	Morris Harris LALS Baker Way O'Brien
	Track Inspector: R. Bergmann Safety Coordinator: R. Bergmann Station Master: R. Bacon Station Assistants: S. Bass, J. Bass		

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Metrolink Holiday Express Schedule:

(continued from page 5)

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 2

SAN CLEMENTE NORTH
5:45 p.m.
CAMP PENDLETON USMC
7:15 p.m.
SAN CLEMENTE PIER
8:45 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 7

DOWNTOWN BURBANK
6:15 p.m.
GLENDALE
8:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 9

MONTALVO
5:00 p.m.
OXNARD
5:45 p.m.
CAMARILLO
6:30 p.m.
MOORPARK
7:30 p.m.

FRIDAY, DECEMBER 14

EL MONTE
7:30 p.m.
BALDWIN PARK
8:45 p.m.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

LANCASTER
5:00 p.m.
PALMDALE
6:50 p.m.
VINCENTE GRADE/ACTON
7:45 p.m.
VIA PRINCESSA
9:00 p.m.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

TUSTIN
5:45 p.m.
IRVINE
6:30 p.m.
LAGUNA NIGUEL/
MISSION VIEJO
7:30 p.m.
SAN JUAN CAPISTRANO
8:30 p.m.

“ SPARK OF LOVE”
TOY DRIVE. BRING A TOY!

SORRY, BUT THIS VERY
SPECIAL TRAIN THAT CAN
NOT ROLL IN THE RAIN.
IN THE EVENT OF RAIN,
PLEASE CALL

(800) 371- LINK (5465) TO FIND
OUT IF YOUR DATE HAS BEEN
RESCHEDULED.

Engineers and Conductors Part 3 October 2007

<u>Date/Passengers</u>	<u>Engineer</u>	<u>Conductor</u>	<u>Owner</u>
October 29/637 (night run)	T. Morris A. Way S. Harris J. Newbill R. Bergmann	P. Fowler J. Hritz B. Kaufman D. Newbill L. Goldberg	Morris Way Harris Newbill Bergman
	Track Inspector: R. Bergmann Safety Coordinator: J. De Phillips Jr. Station Masters: R. Bacon Station Assistants: J. De Phillips Sr		
October 30/708 (night run)	P. Fowler A. Way C. Mahony S. Harris T. Naimy A. Held G. Baker	T. Morris C. Westphal J. De Rosa B. Kaufman B. Harris F. Lack	Morris Way LALS Harris Naimy O'Brien Baker
	Track Inspector: R. Bergmann/C. Mahony Safety Coordinator: R. Bergmann Station Master: R. Bacon Station Assistants: J. De Phillips Sr., J De Phillips Jr., S. Bass, J. Bass, D. Young		
October 31/430 (night run)	A. Way P. Fowler A. Held L. Mitchell R. Bacon	M. Breese C. Westphal D. O'Brien R. Secara R. Nelson	Way Morris O'Brien Mitchell LALS
	Track Inspectors: R. Bergmann/A. Way Safety Coordinator: R. Bergmann Station Masters: J. De Phillips Sr., C. Westphal Station Assistants: C. Westphal, S. Rodstein, R. Secara		
8807	Total for the month		
40,589	Total for the year		

Special Thank You To:

Doug Young and his guiding light at the station. In the fog it was like a lighthouse guiding in a ship.

Bonnie Kaufman and the entire dinner crew. They kept our stomachs full and our waistlines expanding. A happy tummy is a happy engineer.....

"My bairns! My poor bairns.."*

*By Jerry E Brown
LALS member 37 years*

While I make no claims to being any kind of bearing engineer, I can offer something of what I've learned from experience and observation. My rule of thumb is, avoid using aluminum for bearings. The right alloy can make a satisfactory bearing under some conditions, but in this hobby we rarely know exactly what alloy we're using. Sand casting alloys generally have a high silicon content, which stabilizes shrinkage and helps the molten metal flow into molds. This is why I've come to use only cast (not bar stock) scrap in my foundry. But it tends to eat up cutting tools. Silicon is a constituent of sand, and we all know what sand does to bearing surfaces.

Though your engine may have low total running time, it's hard to predict what the wear potential will be. Easier to install bearings during construction, than having to tear it down later. Oilite, though not recommended for bearings subject to pounding, would probably be satisfactory here, as would babbitt.

The subject of bearings is an interesting one. In general, the principle is to use dissimilar metals. The one exception is gray cast iron, as, for example the slide valves of steam engines. It's porous, so becomes impregnated with oil. It has free carbon akin to graphite, as you find when you do much machining of it. You'll come out looking like a coal miner. As my old boss used to say, it's just dirt. Well, not quite, but it's easy to see why he said that.

Some old lathes had cast iron bearings, and they stayed accurate for years. My first air compressor was from an old refrigerator. I was amazed to find that the crankshaft turned in holes bored in the cast iron crankcase. It had probably run 20 years before I got it, and I ran it another 20 with no problem.

Brasses and bronzes are another area. Some will run on themselves, provided they are different alloys. One alloy that is definitely not a bearing material is free-cutting brass. It is great for machining, but not worth a darn for bearings.

*Engineer Montgomery Scott (Scotty) speaking with a Scottish accent on the USS Enterprise, Star Trek

Important Club Car Information

By Willie Wilhelm

Because there are no brakes on the Club cabooses there is the possibility that a caboose could come uncoupled and give the conductor a rather unpleasant ride. Chains have been added to each caboose to couple to the last car. The chain should stay on the caboose and the clevis and it's bolt left on the end of the chain. When setting up a train, always connect the caboose chain to the car in front.

From time to time there is a brake system leak and the pressure regulator has been found tightened to the maximum. If there is a leak no adjustment will fix it. If the regulated pressure approaches the line pressure the brakes can become applied and cannot be released. In event of a problem take the car out of service and leave a note describing why you took the car out of service.

I understand that some members think that the caboose tank pressure should not exceed 80 psi. This is incorrect, there is a minimum tank pressure below which the brakes will not release. This minimum pressure is about 60 psi. The tank fill pressure should be as high as you can go, that is 110 psi, the maximum pressure the compressors produce. The higher the tank pressure the longer you can run before a refill is needed.

Equipment Wanted:

I am looking for a pre-owned, inexpensive 1 inch scale starter locomotive for a young lad. Not in a hurry, so please keep me in mind!!!

Contact Jill at 310-573-9615 if you have a locomotive to sell .

A 1.5" locomotive that is capable or adaptable to haul the public that preferably comes with riding cars.

Please contact Collin or Charles Westphal (818) 846-2385 or cwestphal@earthlink.net



Who's Been Working on the RR Nov. 1 – Dec. 1

11/3: R Guzman
L. Davis
T. Akins
J. Baker
11/10: J. De Rosa

11/10: B. Quinn
L. Soibelman
T. Akins
M. Breese
J. De Rosa

Training Classes

Conductor: Want to learn to be a conductor? Call Peter Fowler at 310-265-9720 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.

Diesel Engineer: Want to learn to operate the Museum's diesel/electric locomotives? Call Roger Bacon at 818/887-0898 or Gary Burdorf at 310/573-2019 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.

Safety: 3rd Saturday of the month. Level II (private use) class at 10AM. This is a half-hour class with a multiple-choice test. Level I (public operations) class at 11AM. This is an hour class with a multiple-choice test. (Level II is the prerequisite for this class.) Station Master/Safety Coordinator class at 1PM. This is an hour hand-on class. (Level I is the prerequisite for this class.)

Engineers and Conductors Part 1 October 2007

<u>Date/Passengers</u>	<u>Engineer</u>	<u>Conductor</u>	<u>Owner</u>
October 07	Fall Meet. No Public Runs		
October 14/1021	T. Morris Al Way P. Fuad C. Mohr R. Hakins P. Nott	P. Fowler C. Westphal B. Quinn R. Secara D. Valencia R. Lopez	Morris Way Fuad Mohr Hawkins Nott
Track Inspectors: R. W. Fogarty & T. Morris Safety Coordinator: R. W. Fogarty Station Master: J. De Phillip Sr Station Assistants: C. Westphal & P. Miller			
October 19/507 (night run)	P. Fuad P. Fowler S. Harris F. Lack	B. Quinn R. Nelson S. Pike T. Harwood	Fuad Morris Harris LALS
Track Inspectors: C. Mohr/P. Fowler Safety Coordinator: C. Mohr Station Master: R. Bacon/ C. Westphal Station Assistant: S. Bass			
October 20/685 (night run)	S. Harris P. Fuad A. Way P. Fowler T. Harwood	S. Pike B. Quinn C. Westphal R. Nelson A. Way	Harris Fuad Way Morris Solak
Track Inspector: R. W. Fogarty Safety Coordinator: R. W. Fogarty Station Master: R. Bacon Station Assistant: C. Westphal			
October 21/868	P. Fuad/F. Lack D. O'Brien T. Naimy	B. Quinn C. Westphal A. Way	Fuad O'Brien Naimy
Track Inspectors: R. W. Fogarty & T. Morris Safety Coordinator: R. W. Fogarty Station Master: J. De Phillip Sr Station Assistants: C. Westphal & P. Miller			
October 21/635 (night run)	S. Harris T. Naimy P. Fowler J. Newbill C. Mahony	J. Bass C. Westphal R. Nelson S. Bass J. DeRosa	Harris Naimy Morris Newbill LALS
Track Inspectors: C. Mohr & T. Morris Safety Coordinator: C. Mohr Station Master: C. Westphal. Station Assistant: S. Bass			

(continued on pages 3 & 4)