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 December 2008 www.lals.org Vol. XLIII, No. XII

Election Results November 2008

213 ballots were mailed to the voting membership.
 124 ballots were returned and counted on November 15th.

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

Name	Number of votes
1. Sam Calderwood	104
2. Roger Bacon	91
3. Gary Baker	90
4. Michael Murphy	62
5. John Goulding	52 (Tied)
5. Philip Tucker	52 (Tied)
6. Chris Solak	22

Write-ins:

7. Bob Woodward	1
8. John Smith	1

Two write-in votes were cast for ineligible persons.

Honorary membership for Jim Baker	Passed
Honorary membership for Willy Wilhelm	Passed

Halloween 2008 a Huge Success!

By Gary Baker

The Ghost Trains crept around our fog filled layout for 9 nights this season where LALS SRM members once again volunteered their time to create a very unique Halloween experience for our very appreciative public riders. Parents and kids alike gave us countless positive comments of how much they enjoyed the experience; and that many of them come back every year to see what new displays we've added. This year we stepped up the action by adding to new pneumatic pieces installed by Ron Bergman, Sam Calderwood, and Les Kovacs; "JOLT" in an electric chair and "BOLT" attached to an electric shock table; brought new animatronic action to the lab displays.

Two new "MINE TUNNELS" were created on the west end from flats donated by Bill Stewart. The first tunnel was themed "BLACK WIDOWS REVENGE" and featured bodies cocooned by the black light black widows webs; and the second tunnel was themed "VAMPIRES LAIR" featuring huge bats and a hidden vampire creature.

(Halloween continued of page 3)

Member Calendar

- Dec. 01 BOD meeting
- Dec. 20 Work Day & Member Meeting.
- Dec. 21 Small Scale Sunday

Public Service Calendar

- Dec. 07 Sunday Public Rides
- Dec. 14 Sunday Public Rides
- Dec. 21 Sunday Public Rides
 Disney Barn open
 Steam Plant open
- Dec. 28 Sunday Public Rides

Happy Holidays!

The editorial staff of the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum Booster would like to wish all members a wonderful holiday season, and a happy new year.



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Splinters From The Board

By John Friend

November 3, 2008 BOD Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:00 PM by President Ron Bergmann. All the Board members were present (Tim LaGaly arrived at 7:06). 16 General Members signed in.

Secretary's report: October minutes were approved. Party requests were approved for Fred Lack, 12/10/08; Jon Newbill, 12/13/08 and Fred Lack, 12/29/08. Fred Lack canceled his 11/24/08 party.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report through October 2008 was approved.

Halloween Run: Ron Bergmann noted how much the public REALLY enjoyed the display, often applauding when the train stopped. Ron thanked the membership for the hard work of hauling the public, running the station, the Kountry Kitchen and ALL the setup and breakdown. A very successful run for the Museum.

Service Hours: Steve Harris and Ron noted that some members average 12 to 15 hours during the preparation for the Halloween Run, even though limited by the maximum hour rules. Because the run is at the end of the shed rental year, some members can blow past some other high hour members who get their hours in throughout the year. The BOD changed the shed credit P&P to start on October 1 so that Halloween comes early in the year and not at the end.

Membership: Steve Harris presented an application for non-resident member Bill Conner of Shelbyville, Tennessee and resident candidate Joel Bingham of Ventura. Silvia Munoz has passed her probationary term and is now a member in good standing. Chuck Moore and Mike Murphy have the high shed hours, 474.75 and 325 respectively.

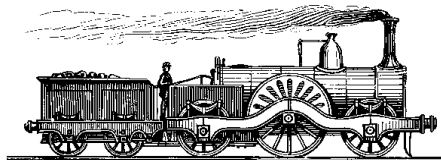
Facilities: Ron noted that Rec and Parks should have some comments about our station improvements and the narrow gauge barn by November 12th.

Safety: Wolf Fengler reported that the second Daylight car is almost finished. There were no problems with the track during the Halloween Run.

New Business: There was discussion regarding the disposal of unneeded Donovan Real Train trucks. The BOD will hold this over until a condition and value consensus can be made. The 2008 LALS Railroad Museum Holiday Party and Officer Installation will be held at the Smokehouse on December 7th. The BOD passed a motion that Safety Testing for Level 2 and Level 1 will be combined into a single Level 1 exam to be submitted during the annual renewal. Ron noted that the large 3.75" steamers available from Roll Models are great looking powerful and simple machines. A completed locomotive is currently available. The BOD authorized the purchase of the engine. The BOD voted to reduce the weights by 60 pounds/car on one of the public trains to see if it has any effect on car stability. The BOD is studying whether some riding car parts received from Real Trains can be assembled into completed cars. A need for some sturdier cabooses was also noted.

Announcements: Les noted that the fellow that purchased the Bell Gardens Railroad equipment has been killed in a motorcycle accident. No plans as to the disposition of the equipment are known.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:41 PM.



Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum Engine Booster

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Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum Board of Directors 2008

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Directors



Ronald Bergmann
Les Kovacs
John Friend
Charles Westphal

Steven Altmayer
David Holman
Tim Lagaly
Doug Young

Phone 323/661-8958

(Halloween continued from page 1)

The old west was depicted by a great display built by Ron Nelson "THE POISON WATER HOLE" and featured hand built cactus and many real props including cow skulls, wagon wheels, lanterns, etc. he collected this summer. While guests waited in line John and Daniel Newbill treated guests to their anima tronic "MORTAMERS MORTUARY" pre show, and Phil Tucker delighted kids with his "DAY OF THE DEAD" animated puppet.

The souvenir stand run by Elizabeth Calderwood and Lucille Secara featured 2 new items; a black light tee shirt featuring zombies and ghosts walking thru a graveyard and a new First Time baseball hat that had a spider design and our LALS RM logo and Ghost Train lettering. The hats had a built in LED blacklight which made the hats glow in the dark.

This year special features reporter Hal Eisner from FOX 11 and CHANEL 13 came by and spent the entire evening opening night of our Halloween 2008 Ghost Trains; and featured us on the 10:00 and 11:00 news. He interviewed many of our public riders and did a great story on us. We even let him drive one of the engines!



Gayle Anderson from KTLA 5 Morning News came on Wednesday, Oct. 29th. We met her at 5AM to set up for her spots; which featured our Halloween Ghost Trains, our Ghost Train hats and tee shirts, some close ups of how we do the displays, and some of our clubs history during their 4 hours of morning programing. Gayle was great to work with and we let her drive the club's super train for one of her spots! She even laid back in Clarabel from Thomas the Tank Engine, and took a relaxing break while reporting as Brad Smith drove her around!



Everyone who helped was treated to a free tee shirt, and a great meal every night, coordinated by Roger Bacon and Bonnie Kaufman. The great group of chefs who surprised us each night with something unique and tasty were Dianna & Glen Manchester, Kevin Finkle, Cathy Hartman, Christopher & Amy Mahony, Cindy Young and Jan & Smokey Bass. Due to their efforts, many club members added some inches to their waistline. The food was excellent!

(Continued on page 4)

(Halloween Continued from page 3)

Michael Murphy and Charles Westphal along with Doug Young and John DePhillip Jr. kept the station organized and moving well. Every center bench riding car was used to keep the lines flowing.

The Halloween Run operation was set up each afternoon by Thane Morris, Miles Kristman and Ron Nelson and they continued each night along with Les Kovacs trouble shooting the operation and refilling fog machine fluids.

This year the event took 3 weeks to install. Miles Kristman, Ron Nelson, John DePhillip Jr, Thane Morris, Brad Smith and Les Kovacs along with Aaron Emmer and his team of Jeremiah Whitman, Kevin Finkel, and Lauren Dunton took the lead under the supervision of Gary Baker. The entire set up took 3 weeks to dismantle thanks to Miles Kristman and Mel Bresee, and was finished by a great group on the November workday.

The event was so successful and the public riders donations were so generous, that the board decided to move forward with the purchase of a brand new Roll Models 3 and 3/4 steam engine and tank car. We now own it and we can continue to teach steam and have another engine to help give rides. I hope you all come out and see it and participate in the classes to learn to operate it. It is a beautiful engine!



Thank you to all who came out and participated in this huge Halloween event and for helping us create a very unique and safe experience for our guests,



For Sale, Wanted or Trade

For Sale:

Electric Locomotives. Brand New Eaton Super-Huskie. I am building this locomotive under license from Eaton Custom Engineering, this is not my personal locomotive. Extremely powerful, fits in a car trunk, uses small car batteries. Runs all day on a charge. Has Bronze couplers, many detail parts, and many upgrades from the original Huskie. \$2850 without batteries.

I will be visiting the club Dec 20 & 21. Please make prior arrangements with me if you are interested, I have friends and family to visit while in town.

Also a six-wheel, two-motor electric chassis, which I am planning to sell for a very reasonable price. No cab/detail parts, just the chassis. Joe Powell (702)434-8710 or TYMMCHN@EMBARQMAIL.COM

For Sale:

1) RRSC 4-4-0 frame assembly and driver castings. Frame is assembled. Four driver's are rough castings only. Includes prints. Asking \$550.00

2) 3 3/4 scale engine kit. Same design as the club's new steamer, but these parts came from Keith Watson in Australia. Engine can be built as a 2-4-0, 2-4-2 or 2-4-4. Includes all castings with main side frames and cylinders machined. All other parts are rough castings including castings to make Stephenson valve gear if desired. Drawings included. Asking \$4000.00

Also, there is a boiler for this engine. Stainless Steel with copper tubes. Asking \$2000.00. Willing to deal if buyer takes parts and boiler. Boiler would be inspected and tested prior to sale.

Bill Barbe
wdbarbe@yahoo.com
818-325-9227

Wanted:

I am an Iraq Vet who is looking for a favor... could you put out a feeler, message or request to your membership asking if anyone has or knows of anyone who has a Jensen Model 50 Steam Engine (working or not). This is for a Veteran's project I am involved in.

Col Mike Phillips
310-375-6605
u2lips@yahoo.com

Remember, if you have something to sell, or wanted, send the information to:

Booster@lals.org

And we will place the ad for you

Our Regrets

LALS SRM volunteer members Gary Baker, Les Kovacs, John DePhilip Jr., and Doug Young, have been very busy building the Metrolink Holiday Toy Express Train which starts running November 22nd and continues every weekend through the Holidays.

The train decorated with 50 thousand lights stops at all of the Metrolink stations and features a 45 minute presentation of a stage show and meet and greet with Santa and all the characters. Guests are asked to bring an unwrapped toy and have a chance to meet and greet their local community fire department firefighters that meet us at each station. This is part of the firefighters Spark of Love Toy Drive and the train toy donations amount to an impressive 30% of what they collect each Christmas.

Gary, Les, John, and Doug regret not being able to attend this years LALS SRM Holiday banquet and visiting with all of you, but as you can see we are busy with this very worthy project. We want to wish all of you a very Merry Christmas and we hope you will come out to see this Magic of the Holidays that has become a tradition for 11 years!

Check the Metrolink website for schedule details. Seasons Greetings from all of us to you and your families!



On behalf of Jean Fowler (my dear wife of 56 years) this is to thank all her friends at LALS for their cards and kind wishes. Jean greatly appreciates the thoughts and misses her days as assistant Stationmaster.

Jean is at home under Hospice care and not able to write individual answers to the many cards that members have sent. She is quite cheerful and comfortable in spite of a devastating operation and a sudden hospitalization for pulmonary embolism - this is one tough lady.

Thanks,
Pete Fowler

President's Message

By Ronald Bergmann

Happy Holidays to all members at LALS SRM.

Halloween is over and the Museum did well. I spent six out of the ten nights at the Museum and I never heard a word of complaint from the public. They were thrilled with our ride and displays. The number of riders surpassed last year's total. I want to say thanks to all the members who helped out. The Museum could not have done it without your dedication.

I want to announce the BOD voted to purchase a Roll Models Forney steam locomotive. It arrived on November 6th. It is a 2-4-4 in 3¾" scale. The engineer can actually ride in the cab. It is oil fired and steams easily. It will be used to pull the public on Sundays. The BOD is working on the necessary rules and training to make the loco available for members to use on Sundays.

The Holiday Party is Sunday December 7th at The Smokehouse. Cocktails are at 6:30 PM and dinner is at 7:30 PM. You have your choice of Salmon or the Flat Iron Steak. Cost is only \$25 per person. We will be installing your new officers at the party. Congratulations to Gary Baker, Roger Bacon, Sam Calderwood, and Mike Murphy.

This will be my last message as your president. Although we accomplished a lot in the last two years, I have to say I am looking forward to just being a member again. I enjoyed the camaraderie of the BOD and the members. LALS SRM is a great organization and will continue to be with the hard work of all of you. I hope you will support whoever is your president during the next term in the same manner you supported me. Thank you.

Please continue to come out to help on Sundays or on our work Saturdays (third Saturday of every month). We can use all the help we can get.

Attention! We Need Your Input!

I am putting together the 2009 calendar to be published by late January. I need any dates for special runs, meets, shed year, or any other important events that you might think needs to be on the calendar.

Send all information to:

Booster@lals.org

Who's Been Working on the RR

G. Becker (x5) Please try to
M. Bresee (x2) come out and
B. Quinn help with the
C. Solack maintenance
C. Mahony of the club. It
L. Siobelman is up to all
J. De Rosa members, to
S. Siobelman keep it clean.
T. Akins

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 Mike Murphy at 213-386-0540 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.

Engineers and Conductors

October 2008

<u>Date/Passengers</u>	<u>Engineer</u>	<u>Conductor</u>	<u>Owner</u>
Oct 04/05	Fall Meet. Closed to the public		
Oct 12/726	T. Morris C. Mohr P. Fuad W. Fengler	P. Fowler C. Westphal B. Quinn M. Bruce	Morris Mohr Fuad LALS
	Track Inspectors: J. De Phillips Jr. Safety Coordinator: C. Mohr Station Master: C. Westphal Station Assistants: C. Westphal		
Oct 19/900	P. Fuad T. Morris A. Way M. Murphy R. Bergmann B. Crone	B. Quinn R. Nelson K. Jung C. Westphal B. Liebman G. Becker	Fuad Morris Way Westphal Bergmann LALS
	Track Inspectors: C. Mohr Safety Coordinator: C. Mohr Station Master: C. Westphal Station Assistants: B. Liebman		
Oct 26/694	B. Harris P. Fuad T. Morris M. Bresee R. Bergmann B. Crone	S. Harris B. Quinn R. Nelson P. Metts B. Marshall R. Lopez	Harris Fuad Morris Bresee Bergmann LALS
	Track Inspectors: B. Harris Safety Coordinator: C. Mohr Station Master: M. Murphy Station Assistants: L. Mitchell		

Halloween Run Engineers, Conductors, Station Masters and Assistants:

P. Fuad, B. Quinn, P. Fowler, J. Hritz, T. Morris, J. Newbill, P. Tucker, G. Baker, C. Westphal, B. Liebman, R. Bergmann, W. Dong, G. Bass, F. Lack, B. Barbe, R. Secara, S. Harris, B. Harris, J. De Rosa, C. Mahony, R. Wolley, A. Way, B. Crone, M. Bruce, S. Munoz, E. Fields, R. Nelson, P. Bowen, J. Newberg, B. Kaufman, D. Young, M. Murphy

3, 100	Total for the month
7, 560	Total for the Halloween Runs
38, 190	Total for the year

