

LALS ENGINE BOOSTER



Celebrating 50 Years



July 2009

www.lals.org

Vol. XLIV, No. VII

City of Hope Run A Success!

The Annual City of Hope Run was on Saturday June 6th, and was well attended. Panda Express provided lunch, there were many cartoon characters to entertain the kids, and there were trains by LALS. Thanks to Dan O'Brien for being the coordinator. Photos by Danny Smith. There are more photos on the LALS.org website.



Member Calendar

July:
 07/06 BOD Meeting
 07/18 Work Day/Member Meeting
 07/19 Small Scale Sunday
 07/25 **Pot Luck/Night Run/Disney Barn Movie Night**

August:
 08/03 BOD Meeting
 08/08 **TTOS Run**
 08/15 Work Day/Member Meeting
 08/16 Small Scale Sunday
 08/22 **Pot Luck/Night Run/Disney Barn Movie Night**
 08/29 **Change Directions**

Public Service Calendar

July 05 Sunday Public Rides
 July 12 Sunday Public Rides
 July 19 Sunday Public Rides
 Disney Barn open
 Steam Plant open
 July 26 Sunday Public Rides

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Splinters From The Board

By John Friend

July 6, 2009 BOD Meeting

Meeting called to order at 7:06 PM by President Sam Calderwood. All the Board members were present, except Steve Altmayer who had a work related excuse. 27 general members signed in.

Reports:

Secretary's Report: June's minutes were approved as corrected. Party requests were approved for Todd Moore 7/11/09 (moved to Disney Picnic area as EVL picnic has a prior request for the Goudie Pavilion/Gazebo area on that date); and Michael Murphy 9/12/09.

Treasurer's Report: Charles Westphal presented a six-month look at expenditures versus our budget; the Museum is in good shape. Charles summarized the major achievements in this time period: Renewed the liability insurance policy, repair of the mountain division retaining wall, purchase of 3-3/4" cabooses and four 1.5" cabooses, six new bench cars are on order, welcomed 11 new members, new narrow gauge car barn, engine shed for the 3-3/4" #8 steamer, meeting car painted by Larry Milukin, replaced the Kountry Kitchen freezer (Roger Bacon), removed several dangerously leaning pine trees, planting of many new trees and landscaping thanks to the Soibelman's, two miniature buildings restored by Bill Liebman, new and repaired lighting (John Smith), new Museum polo shirts (thanks Elizabeth) and a GREAT Spring Meet thanks to Steve Ruatta, John Smith, the track crews and everyone else that made this a fun and safe place to run. June's Treasurer's report was approved.

Membership: Ray Secara introduced Resident Members Jeff Walters of Frazier Park and Roger Williams of South Pasadena. Welcome aboard gentlemen! Applicant Cary Doss was not present.

General Superintendent: Steve Ruatta has lots of lists of tasks that need work. He suggests that teams of 2 or 3 members would be useful. Most of these involve brush and tree removal for fire prevention purposes. Lew Soibelman's crew is placing bark around the new landscaping. Come on out and help get ready for the dry summer months.

Facilities: Roger Bacon says the New Station plans are going to the engineer this week and should be ready to go to the City by the end of the month. An FCR for a privacy screen between the track work area and the Disney Barn was approved.

Old Business:

Rec & Parks Steak BBQ Lunch: Sam noted that the event was not well attended, approximately 50 to 60 City employees availed themselves of our hospitality.

Electric Drop at West End: New members Frank Munoz and Roger Williams will coordinate with the LADWP for a meter and service box(es) at the West End to facilitate the Halloween Run and West End camping during meets.

Newsletter Printer: Peter Fuad has located a printer that can produce our *Booster* in color at a competitive rate.

New Center Bench Cars: Real Trains will deliver the six new center bench cars by the end of July. We need volunteers to weld up the new 1.5" scale Kitsap cabooses.

New Business:

New Fuel Tank: An additional diesel fuel tank is being examined to allow fueling of #8 and the Museum diesels conveniently off the mainline track.

Sunday Rides: A member has asked for clarification about boarding their children at the public station during public hauling. Sam notes that our public service on Sundays comes first. We can handle maybe one ride but

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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.

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:

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Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum Board of Directors 2008

President
Vice President
Secretary
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Directors



Sam Calderwood
Gary Baker
John Friend
Charles Westphal

Steve Altmayer
Roger Bacon
Dave Holman
Michael Murphy

Phone 323/661-8958

From the Web...

By John Formia (webmaster)

Some of you know me but many of you don't, my name is John Formia. I joined LALS in mid 2008 and learned the previous webmaster moved and was unable to continue to work on the site so I volunteered.

Upon my appointment as webmaster, I immediately gave the site a facelift. It will always be a work in progress and am sure it will probably go through a few more operations before I am happy. Many of you have told me you think it looks great and that is very much appreciated.

Some Stats...

I started gathering statistics from the website on August 2, 2008, shortly after publishing the new site. As of July 1st 2009 there have been over 100,000 unique visitors who came from 93 different countries, resulting in 2,615,439 hits. I was amazed by the number of enthusiasts, and the curious from around the globe.

My current "real" job and my private life, make it next to impossible for me to be at every event and at the club as often as my 5 year old and I would like. Although I am not able to be there, I really take great joy in participating in the club in this way. Therefore, I rely on you, the members, to provide me with your best photos, videos and stories to publish to the web.

Please send your best works to: webmaster@lals.org I will post them as fast as I can. Please feel free to contact me with any question or suggestions. Thank you for your support.

Embroidery for Club Jackets!

If you would like to get your club jacket embroidered with your name contact me at:

Davidkinglidden@msn.com

or they can call (562) 209-5200 to build a group.

The minimum number needed for a run is 12.



Night Run & Pot Luck!!!

Come out on July 25th at 5:30 pm to enjoy what most of us live steamers love: Food & Trains. Here is what to do if you have not ever been to a NR&PL before:

Bring food to share. Now we know that some of the members really cook really well, and it would be nice if you can show off your talents. For those who are "cooking challenged", go to your favorite take out, and bring enough to share. Or if you desire, bring drinks, salad or dessert. Just bring something.

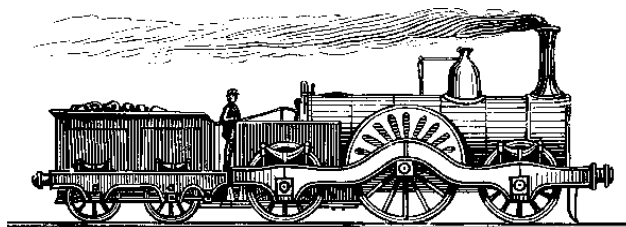
Then bring out your train. It does not matter if it is 1" or 1.5", just bring it out and run through the night. The club does look different running at night. Just watch out for the skunks, opossums, coyotes, and other critters of the night. Pot Lucks & Night Runs are every last Saturday of the month through the summer. Once in a while, the Disney Barn will show an outdoor movie, so please come out and play!

All Good Things Come To An End.....

By Christopher Mahony

I have been the editor of the Booster for the past two years, and as much as I would like to continue in this position, I cannot. Due to work, family, and being the 1 inch track foreman here at LALS, the Booster is getting lost in the cracks. I have discussed this with members of the Board. We have decided that Peter Fuad will take over as the editor of the Booster. The transfer of the editor position will occur over the next few months to get Peter up to speed. I thank all of the members who have encouraged me, contributed articles and photos, and even in some cases, argued with me. Please help Peter Fuad to continue the quality of the LALS RM Booster for our members.

See you on the 1" line!!!!



Up-Coming Events That Need Your Help!!!

Sept. 12th: Glendale Model Railroad Club

What is needed: Trains, engineers and smiling faces as we show off our club! Both 1 1/2", 1 " and 3/4" scales can participate. Contact Mike Murphy if you want to help

Oct. 02-05: Fall Meet

More information will be forthcoming on this event.

Oct. 16-18, 23-25 & 28-31: Halloween Runs

What is needed: Help with the set up of the displays in September/October, Trains, Engineers, Conductors and volunteers to help the guests. Kountry Kitchen dinners on all of the nights, and then after the runs, help with removal of the displays.

Contact either Roger Bacon at 323-864-0254 or Gary Baker at: showdevelopment@msn.com or (323) 666-7279 if you would like to help.

Dec 12: Holiday Party & Officer Installation

What is needed: Assistance with the planning of this event.

Contact Shira Bush at 818-209-1863

If you have any events that need help, please send the information to: Booster@lals.org

Up Coming Calendar Events:

August

08/02 Public Rides
 08/03 BOD Meeting at 7 pm.
 08/08 **TTOS Run**
 08/09 Public Rides
 08/15 Work Day/Member Meeting
 08/16 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant
 Small Scale Sunday/Gourmet Lunch
 08/22 **Pot Luck/Night Run/Disney Barn Movie Night**
 08/23 Public Rides
 08/29 **Change Directions**

September

09/06 Public Rides
 09/12 **Glendale Model Railroad Club visit**
 09/13 Public Rides
 09/14 BOD Meeting (Due to Labor Day)
 09/19 Work Day/Member Meeting
 09/20 Public Rides/Disney Barn/Steam Plant
 Small Scale Sunday/Gourmet Lunch
 09/26 **Pot Luck/Night Run**
 09/27 Public Rides

Lois Carol O'Neill



November 27th, 1932 to June 22nd, 2009.

She was our beloved mother, grandmother, sister, daughter, witness, nurse and friend. She loved coming to LALS to help in the station.

In lieu of flowers please make a donation in the name of Lois Carol to the Kingdom Hall of Jehovah's Witnesses, Valencia congregation.

For Sale & Wanted:

1) RRSC 4-4-0 frame assembly and driver castings. Frame is assembled. The four driver's are rough castings only. Includes prints. Asking \$400.00 for frame and \$100.00 for driver castings or \$450.00 if you take both.

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 \$3000.00. Willing to deal if buyer takes parts and boiler.

Bill Barbe
wdbarbe@yahoo.com

818-325-9227

(Splinters Continued)

we cannot continuously tie up seats on a public train for member's children.

EVL Picnic: The East Valley Lines (Traveltown 'N' scale) picnic is a Museum sponsored event starting at 4 PM on July 11th.

Halloween Storage Trailer: The new narrow gauge car barn area needs to be wrapped up to allow the unloading of the trailer in time for Halloween.

Electric Locomotive: Willy Wilhelm reports the Museum electric locomotive is off site for 4 to 6 weeks for repair to gear boxes, axles, etc. The Museum PA locomotive is not charging, appears the voltage regulator is dead. Meeting Adjourned at 8:28 PM.

From the Superintendent:

By Steve Ruatta

Did you know that raking leaves counts as moderate physical activity? And that if you do this for 2 hours and 30 minutes each week it counts toward your weekly exercise requirements? (No – I'm really not making this up <http://www.health.gov/paguidelines/factSheetAdults.aspx>). Cheaper and more fun than the gym and we're never short of leaves (or pine needles) to rake!

I'm looking for a few engineers or want-to-be engineers to use their own or the club engines to pull gondolas on Saturdays – especially the work Saturdays. If you are a new engineer, this is a way to get more practice and do useful work at the same time. Ideally, I'd like to have 2 or 3 work trains running every Saturday doing jobs like moving people, equipment and debris. This also has the side benefit of providing some motive power "eye candy" for your fellow train-o-philes. If you want to learn to be an engineer, see me or talk to Mike Murphy directly.

The aluminum rails out at the west end are in sore need of some track maintenance. The regular track gang has their hands full with the new barn switchyard, so if you would like to learn to work on track and have a screw drill, this is a good place to learn. There is also a section that runs over a small wooden trestle. I'm also looking for someone or a group to help rebuild the trestle.

I try to be at the museum every Saturday between 9 and 9:30 to help people get started on things that need doing. If I'm not there, check the red binder in the patio – I try to keep a list of things to do in there – I'm even trying to write legibly. For you new members the 3rd Saturday of each month is the general meeting at 9am followed by the scheduled work day. This is a good time to find out what's going on, meet other members and get a few hours of work done. If you come out to help maintain the facility, don't forget to write your name in the notebook – you might as well get some credit for your hard work!

Happy Railroading!

President's Message

By Sam Calderwood

Well as usual we had a good meeting and a lot of good things came out of it. A few issues were not so good, but needed to be done; and we will not address those now here but at a later date.

The board has decided to buy a new fuel tank for the clubs steamer and tractor. This will get the club engine off the main line when they need to take on fuel and make it easier to fuel the club tractor. We will also sell fuel to other members with steam engines that need fuel just like we do with the propane tank that we have.

Roger showed the final plans for the new station, and key word here is final. The plans are off to have some final work done on them; then it is off to the city with them. The city should have them by the end of this month per Roger Bacon.

New instructions for the Safety Coordinator were worked out and will be printed soon and given to all Safety Coordinator's. These are the things that we need to do as a club to keep us safe.

We had two new members join this last meeting and I hope that they will enjoy this club as much as we all do.

We are also working on having a power drop out at the west end. This will be a big help at the meets and Halloween. As most of us know once the power goes past the tunnels to the west end; there is a big power loss because of the run. This should take care of it. Frank, one of our new members, is working on this for us. He knows how DWP works and has been a big help on this.

Some of our safety rules have been broken, not just bent but broken. When you are caught breaking the rules please no tears. We have these rules for a reason and that is to keep us all safe.

Last thing. This club's main duty on Public Run Sundays is to promote railroad education and safety for the public. We also show off our equipment and educate people into this hobby. Also per our agreement with the city, we give rides while we do the above. The rest of the week is ours to run and play trains.

Therefore, we do not give rides to our members on Sunday. That is the public day. If you do need your daily fix of steam or diesel smoke, do it at the start of the day or the end, but not during the peak of our day when we are providing our volunteer service to the public.

Sam

Who's Been Working on the RR

S. Rutta (x 4)
T. & G. Berg
L. Soibelman (x3)
M. Soibelman (x3)
G. Becker (x3)
T. Akins (x3)
C. & T. Metts (x2)

Please try to come out and help with the maintenance of the club. It is up to all members, to keep it clean.

Training Classes

Conductor: Want to learn to be a conductor? Call Collin Westphal at 818-846-2385 or Steve Harris at 818/842-2296 to schedule a class. There is an excellent DVD available to either borrow or own (\$5).

Classes are scheduled only when a person wants to become a conductor.

The test will then be scheduled for the third Saturday of the month. 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 213-247-0776 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

May 2009

<u>Date/Passengers</u>	<u>Engineer</u>	<u>Conductor</u>	<u>Owner</u>
May 09/300	C. Westphal	R. Secara	Murphy
Children's Run	B. Woodward J. Baker	G. Woodward D. O'Brien	Woodward O'Brien
	Track Inspectors: C. Mohr Safety Coordinator: C. Mohr Station Master: J. De Phillips Sr. Station Assistant: G. Becker.		
May 10/532	A. Held	L. Ross	LALS
Mother's Day	P. Fuad D. Lazarus P. Fowler W. Hell	B. Quinn B. Crone R. Secara R. Keinast	LALS LALS Steam Morris Kuafman
	Track Inspectors: W. Fengler Safety Coordinator: W. Fengler Station Master: B. Kaufman Station Assistants: C. Westphal		
May 17/712	P. Fowler C. Westphal G. Baker	R. Secara C. Westphal K. Cassaden	Morris Murphy LALS SF
	Track Inspectors: J. De Phillips Safety Coordinator: C. Mohr Station Master: M. Murphy Station Assistants: R. Secara		
May 24	Closed for Spring Meet		
May 31/735	P. Fuad P. Fowler T. Naimy C. Westphal G. Baker	B. Quinn T. Morris B. Liebman C. Solack B. Smith	Fuad Morris Naimy LALS Steam Baker
	Track Inspectors: J. De Phillips Safety Coordinator: C. Mohr Station Master: C. Westphal Station Assistants: R. Secara		
2, 279	Total for the month of May		
13, 568	Total for the year		

