

# ENGINE



# BOOSTER

October 2016

1956

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2016

[www.lals.org](http://www.lals.org)



## Annual Steak Luncheon Serves 120 Rec and Parks Workers

LALSRM's Annual Steak Luncheon for the City of LA Department of Recreation and Parks Workers was held Wednesday, Sept. 28.

Thirteen LALSRM members came out to help, and 120 workers were served a lunch of grilled steak, potato salad, pasta salad (made by Martha), tossed green salad, rolls, watermelon, chips and salsa. Les Kovacs visited every table, and personally thanked the workers for their service all year.

Christie Edinger provided train rides after lunch on her Sweetcreek Mogul, with John Smith conducting.



## Public Service

### October

- 23 Public Rides
- 30 Public Rides

### November

- 6 Public Rides
- 13 Public Rides
- 20 Public Rides/Disney Barn Open
- 27 Public Rides

Inside: Fall Meet and 1:32 Scale 1 Gauge Event Photos

# From the Super



By Ted Merchant  
General  
Superintendent

**H**ello Train-Fans!  
I don't know if my opinion should count, but I think the Club looks pretty darn

good!! Earlier this month we worked hard at pruning the trees along Crystal Springs Drive and the Bougainvilleas around the Smith Valley Line. October's work day brought out the usual hard-working volunteers. Steve Rodstein managed a crew that swept up the residual debris along the Smith Valley Line. John De Phillip and Doug Young replaced the rusted track at the East Gate. The Signal Group performed their usual electronic magic. Gary Evans and I fixed the leaking boiler water line at Terry Spahr's tractor shed. And, of course, there were the usual onlookers offering advice.

Looking forward, we need to do something about the ground squirrels digging tunnels under the Mountain Division and decimating lawns and hedges around the Kountry Kitchen. A Google search says the most definitive management is to "shoot them"! Unfortunately, there are significant risks with such measures in an urban environment. We are looking into bait traps and filling the burrows with a sand slurry.

There are several trees with dead-wood that threatens the safety of our train rides. These particular branches are higher than our members can safely address and require professional service. I hope to discuss this issue at our next Board meeting.

LALSRM thanks all of you who commit personal time to keep the campus neat and clean. You make the Club pleasant for us all.

So how about our upcoming LALSRM election!?! There are several candidates that we all see coming to the Club, getting their hands dirty, working hard and making the Club enjoyable for us all! I think I'll vote for them.

# Splinters from the Board



By Nick Suncin  
Secretary

**P**arty requests were made by Terry Spahr 11/10, Martha Figueroa 2/25/2017. Both requests were approved.

**Membership:** Prospective member Doug Stephens was introduced. Probationary members Deanna Detchemendy and Meredith Chinn have both been granted extensions to complete their probation.

**Operations:** Sunday train crews, please have your train crew and brake checks sorted out before you get to the loading platform during Sunday operations. Please keep a close eye on your speed and never exceed 6 mph when running public trains. Please stay off of the station and platform area unless you are helping to run the station or part of a train crew during the Sunday run.

**Old business:** The election committee presented a list of candidates to run for the Board. They are Fred Lack, Peter Fuad, Don Kallgren, Zak Holman, Andrew LaGaly, Christy Edinger, John Garcia, and Collin Westphal. Plans for reassessing and moving forward with the electrical project are underway. The east end gate motor will be replaced on 10/12 with a new unit that has a battery backup in case of a power failure.

**New Business:** The Smokehouse is not available for the annual Christmas Dinner. The plan is to have the Dinner at the Club. The plan is to rent heaters and whatever is needed to make it a nice event. The menu isn't fully sorted out yet. In the event that is raining, we will have the dinner in the meeting car. The tentative date is Saturday, December 10.

Al Rowsell's family is interested in getting the G scale garden back in tip top shape and has already begun cleaning the garden up. They proposed revamping the outer part of the garden with scale plants and a sprinkler system.

So, that's the way it is! Keep steaming and I'll see you at the rails. Your comments and questions are always welcome.

Ted Merchant  
[EdwardBMerchant@gmail.com](mailto:EdwardBMerchant@gmail.com).

The Board authorized Nick Suncin to buy a new computer and printer for the Club's library so that the process of cataloging can begin.

**Announcements:** The TTOS made a generous donation of \$520 in thanks for hosting their annual event at our Cub. The Fall Meet was a huge success. A huge thank you to all the volunteers that made it such a great time. All LALSRM members: come out and run your equipment. Sunday is our official run day! Enjoy your railroad. The public loves seeing our equipment and the more LALSRM is enjoyed by all, the better!

## President's Message



By Les Kovacs  
President

**W**e had a very hot summer and fall is finally here and now we can get back to working on the railroad. There's a long list of projects that need members to take on. Find one you like and volunteer to get it done. It gives you a great sense of accomplishment after you see it finished.

It's also election time and your ballots will be coming out soon. Please vote and remember these are all good people just trying to do best for the Club so give them your support.

We had a great Fall Meet. We had an amazing turnout so hopefully we can bring back the fall meet for a second year. In the years to come I'm sure we'll keep growing and I'm glad we brought it back. I do want to thank Martha & Diana and all those who helped to pull this off.

Lastly we haven't been able to find a restaurant for the Christmas dinner. So, we are going to have dinner at the Club and run trains. We will be putting a menu together and make this happen. If you'd like to help let the Board know.



▲ Charlie Giordano and Oskar Frye fire up the English steam engines that they eventually double-headed with. *Front:* Charlie preps the 3.5" gauge City of Truro 4-4-0 outside frame English engine, that is part of a collection he is in charge of. *Back:* Os-

kar with his 4-4-2 Ivatt C-1 Class GNR Atlantic, 1/16 scale. This is a Maisie model, and was built in 1938. ▲ David Lazarus with 1" steamer. *(Alex O'Donnell photo)*

# Lots of Steam at 2016 Fall Meet

By Diana Manchester

After many years of no Fall Meets, or very informal ones, the 2016 planned event was a "surprising success". Everyone we talked to has agreed it was enjoyable and relaxing, with a number of interesting trains out, and people we might not see very often.

The Gauge 1 live steam was really impressive with much equipment running: Michael Murphy's Norfolk Western, a Big Boy, two cab forwards, an Allegheny, James Grzesiak's Pennsy K-4, and some other prototypes. Dave Lazarus brought his recently restored 1" Pennsylvania 2-8-0 as well as Doug Alkire's impressive 1" B&O P7 4-6-2, currently owned by Gary Mocco.

Alex brought his Little Engine's O-4-0. Brandon Ruis came with his recently acquired Allen Models 2-4-0, which he is renovating. With the two 3.5" British engines that Charlie Giordano and Oskar Frye brought, that made for a lot of action on the small scales tracks.

Roger Frymire had his GS2 Daylight out (which is for sale on Discover Live Steam), and Ted's mega Heisler made its debut on propane (converted in time for the Meet by Ray Burden). Christie Edinger's Sweet Creek was ready for the weekend with its autumn leaves, party music, and new bearings. We welcomed mem-

bers of other Live Steam clubs who also brought their equipment to run.

Accucraft, RMI and Fisher Detail Foundry were among the vendors who participated, and a LALSRLM souvenir table was available all day Saturday.

The Kountry Kitchen cranked out hot meals throughout the weekend, and we enjoyed a special barbecue dinner by Terry Spahr and Martha Figueroa on Saturday night. For the first time we had a Fall Auction, which made a very respectable \$850 for the Club, with the help of auctioneer

Les Kovacs and top bidder Jim Logan (who then graciously presented the items to the surprised runners-up). Thanks to everyone who helped make the weekend a safe and fun time for all, and to everyone who attended. We hope to renew the LALSRLM tradition of an annual planned Fall Meet.

▼ Ray Burden running Ted Merchant's Heisler, which was converted to propane in time for the Fall Meet. *(William Rogers photos)*





### Fall Meet

► Derek Schipper’s modified Allen Ten-wheeler. The stack is custom and the boiler is a true wagon-top, making it a little bigger and heavier. The cab and other details are still in the shop. The Holiday Special riding cars belonged to former LALS member and composer David Rose, and each is named after songs he wrote. *(William Rogers photo)*

◀ Gary Evans serves Terry Spahr’s ice cream at Fall Meet. *(Diana Manchester photo)*



## Terry Spahr Shares His Smoked Barbecue Secrets

**W**e asked Terry how he made the slow-smoked barbecue pork shoulder and ribs that were served on Saturday night at the Fall Meet.

“I use a special rub from Alton Brown of Good Eats (Food Network). The meat is rubbed the day before and wrapped and refrigerated overnight. The smoker is a 55- gallon drum that I made myself. The pork shoulder and ribs were put in the smoker at 6:00 am on Saturday. Francis Barnes helped me. The fire is built from charcoal, and I used apple wood chips in foil for extra smoke.

“The hardest part was waking up at 4:30 in the morning to get to the club to light the fire!

“The pork shoulders are put on the lower grate and the ribs on the grate above. The fire starts when you take the lid off so you have to hurry, otherwise there’s no oxygen, and it just puffs smoke like the first picture. It’s about 250 degrees in the smoker. The grease dripping on the coals make smoke as well.

“Ten hours later at 4:00 pm, we took out the meat. The pork pulled apart nice and tender. Now that’s good eats!”

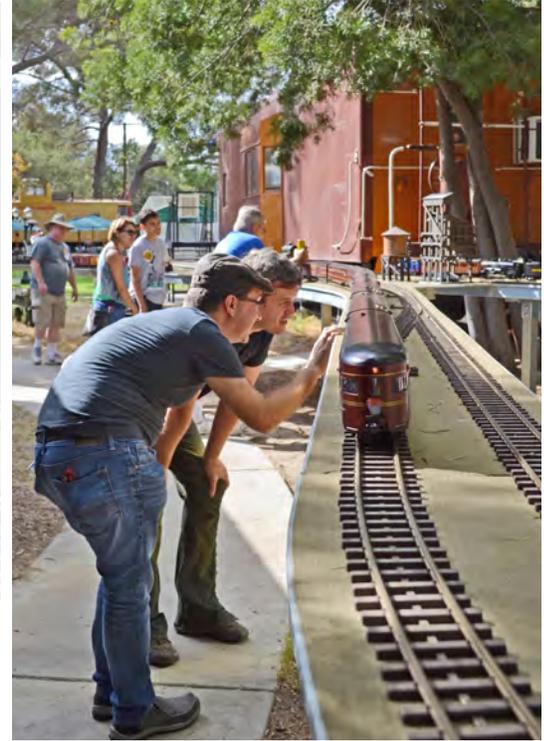
▼ ▲ Terry’s 55-gallon drum smoker, and five pork shoulders slowly roasting on a grate inside. *(Terry Spahr Photos)*



► In the Kountry Kitchen Saturday night, Terry and LALS RM volunteers serve up a dinner of smoked pork and ribs, barbecue sauce, rolls, freshly-made pineapple coleslaw by Martha Figueroa, tossed salad and watermelon. Thank you everyone for your help! *(Photo by Diana Manchester)*



# 1 Gauge Special Event Enjoyed by Many



By Gary Raymond

We had an enthusiastic turnout for our first 1:32 Scale 1 Gauge Event at LALS RM on Sunday, October 16. Many operators, LALS RM members, and Walt Disney guests gathered at the 1 Gauge tracks from 10 in the morning til past 3 in the afternoon to participate or watch all the trains in action.

A thank you to all the 1:32 Scale Group operators, especially John Ryan who brought 20 extra cars for everyone to use:

- Bob Uniack – SP GP9 and SP Bay Window Caboose
- Gary Raymond – UP Dash-8s
- Georges Arsenaunt – SP Daylight
- Jack Stophel – Yellow SF F7s
- Jim Davis – UP Big Boy
- Joe Heumphreus – Custom Connie
- John Ryan – SP Geeps

A big thank you to Alex O'Donnell for helping with the setup, and to Ray

Burden for providing the train ride. And a big thank you to all my fellow LALS RM members who were so helpful and supportive, including Flemming Nielsen for suggesting the event.

*(Gary Raymond Photos except upper right Diana Manchester)*



# Your 2016 Board of Directors Candidates



John DePhillip, Jr.



Christie Edinger



Peter Fuad



John Garcia



Zak Holman

### John DePhillip

I've been a member for 38 years, have served on several Boards, held positions as Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President. I have been 7.5" track foreman for many years

My main focus would be the Club's infrastructure— some of our structures need painting and maintenance, our bridges and trestle's are in dire need of paint and maintenance.

I personally see the Live Steam hobby in decline. Having built several Live Steam locomotives we need to encourage younger generations to be more involved for the future of the hobby.

### Christie Edinger

Since retiring from Disney LALS has become my family and second home. I have enjoyed the fellowship of other members while working on maintenance projects and interacting with public during Sunday train rides. My goals for the Club include maintaining and upgrading our infrastructure, encouraging members to participate in Club activities and recruiting quality new members to preserve the live steam hobby for generations to come. I would be honored to serve as your Board member.

### Peter Fuad

I have been a member for over 20 years and have served on the Board a number of times. I am editor of the Booster. I usually pull the public on Sundays. My goal on the board would be to make our decisions and actions transparent and open to discussion by the membership. In particular, we need to get a handle on Club expenditures for major projects through the FCR process. I am a lawyer and have used that training and knowledge to help the Club.

### John Garcia

I am a candidate for the LALS Board. I joined in the early summer of 2015 so that my son and I could do something together on weekends. Earlier this year my wife decided to also join as she was always coming with us to all the events and helping on Sundays. Our love of trains and the club has grown since joining. Professionally, I oversee a large worldwide technology group that works very closely with businesses. The success of the group I lead shows in our results. One of my goals is to work in getting the Club setup for a better public presence through social media and an online presence as well. I'd like to use online tools to keep the Board and all members better connected while creating a synergy that we do need.

### Zak Holman

Most of my childhood was spent here at LALS. Learning to operate and maintain trains has been, and will always be a huge part of my life. But as we all know, this place isn't just about trains. It's about the community, friends, and family that have all come to spend their time here. The Club has always felt like home to me, and if elected to the Board, I would do my best to give back to the place which has taught me so much. I now have the time, experience, and dedication to do that effectively. Thank you for your consideration.

**Ballots due Saturday,  
November 19  
before General Meeting  
Ballots mailed soon.**

▼▶ Train at 1:32 Scale 1 Gauge Event  
(Herbert Alfred Mayer Photos)



# Your 2016 Board of Directors Candidates



Don Kallgren



Fred Lack



Andrew LaGaly



Collin Westphal

## Don Kallgren

**M**y name is Don Kallgren and I am running for the Board. With the return of the Fall Meet the Club is becoming a place other clubs want to visit again. I believe this is a trend in the right direction. The membership wanted the Fall Meet back and they got it. The Board is here to serve the members. If elected I will be there to listen to the members concerns and make sure that they are addressed. The membership decides who is on the Board and the direction the Club takes. I'd like the chance to be your vessel to move the Club in the direction you want.

## Fred Lack

**M**y qualifications: I have been a member of LALSRM for over 14 years. I have served previously on the Board of Directors. I have been a Fall Meet Chairman. I have engineered the Ghost Train for 14 years. I have produced a Club brochure, sold ads for the Club's Rooster, designed and produced the club's first Halloween Ghost Train t-shirts. I have produced the Club's t-shirts, hats and jackets. I have run my own business for over 35 years. My goal for running for the Board again is to perpetuate the enjoyment of the hobby of railroading and comradery we have come to enjoy from being members of LALSRM. I'm looking forward to leading the Club in a positive direction.

## Andrew LaGaly

**I**'ve been involved in LALSRM my whole life and a member for the past 8 years. I've worked on many projects at the Club, am actively involved in the regular maintenance, and am familiar with the daily operations as well as the larger goals. As president of the CSUN Ice Hockey team, I lead, mentor, and motivate fellow players, serve as liaison with the university, organize fundraising, and manage the team's finances. In May, I will graduate with a B.S. in Construction Management. If elected to I look forward to leading by example as I strive to seek more membership involvement in projects around the Club.

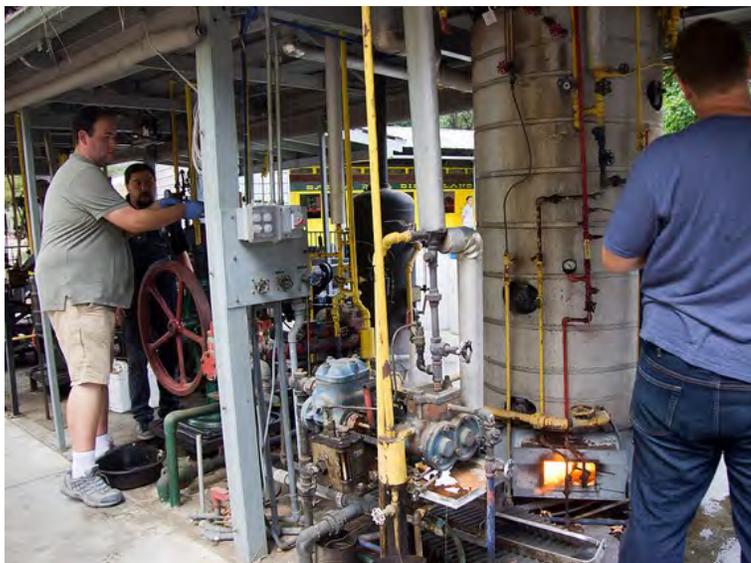
## Collin Westphal

**T**he most important part of our Club is the membership. Without you, the members, we would not exist. We all joined this Club for one reason or another, but we are all members with one goal. We all want to enjoy our hobby! I have previously served as a Board Member in 2011-2012, and I am looking to serve the membership again. I own 7-1/2" gauge equipment, participate in the G Scale, and serve as your webmaster. If elected to the Board, I will ensure the Club is a fun and safe environment for all members to enjoy together!

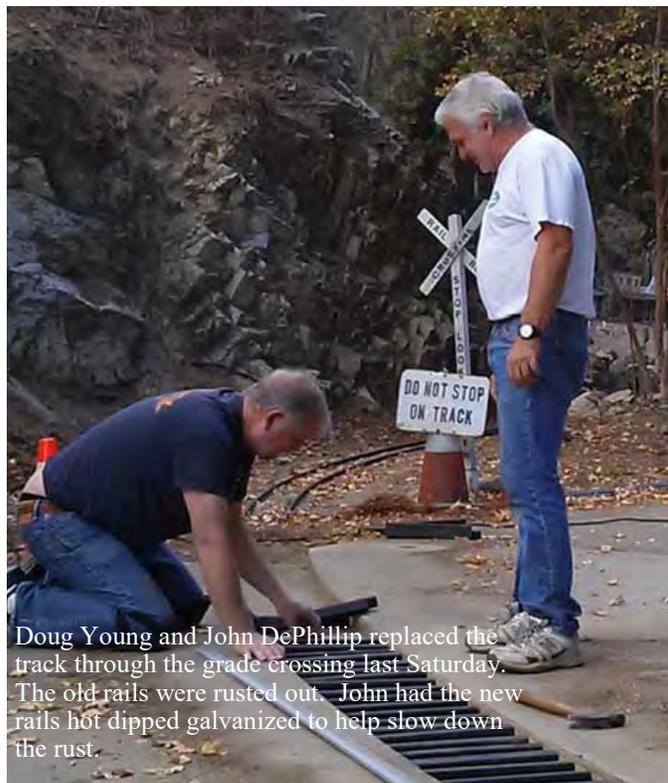


Roger Frymire's oil-burning Daylight 4-8-4 Northern (for sale on Discover Live Steam). (William Rogers Photo)





▲ Nick Suncin and Jeremy Steinert at Steam Plant. ▼ Signal crew working on Saturday workday, October 15, under the supervision of Stevo Brock (Diana Manchester Photos)



Doug Young and John DePhillip replaced the track through the grade crossing last Saturday. The old rails were rusted out. John had the new rails hot dipped galvanized to help slow down the rust.



## Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum



### 2016 Officers and Directors

President	Les Kovacs
Vice President	Roger Williams
Secretary	Nick Suncin
Treasurer	Alex O'Donnell

#### Directors :

David Holman, John Smith, Chuck Mohr, Ron Hitchcock

## Box Cab Electric

(Plum Cove Studios)

Riding car with boat seat and battery charger

Home-made speeder with 5 speed transmission

Gondola riding car with boat seat  
Shed rental until June 30, 2017

Asking price \$1,500 O.B.O.

Contact Thomas Peter Akins at (626) 531-6343 or [leo44901@hotmail.com](mailto:leo44901@hotmail.com)

# Who's been Working on the Railroad

Glenn Austin	Tim LaGaly
Jim Baker	Tom Lang
Gary Baker	Lisa Lipton
Stevo Brock	David Holman
Ray Burden	Diana Manchester
Tom Crue	Glen Manchester
John De Phillip	Ted Merchant
Deanna Detchemendy	Scott McCullough
Gorge Detchemendy	Chris McMurry
Christie Edinger	Andrew Mulkeen
Gary Evans	Alex O'Donnell
Ofelia Finett	Charles Rhoades
Hosanna Finch	Steve Rodstein-
Michael Finch	Steve Sauber
John Garcia	Bill Schirmer
John Goulding	John Smith
Rick Gross	Dani Smith
Robert Guzman	Chris Solak
Ross Harper	Jeremy Steinert
Scott Hoagland	Doug Stephens
Don Kallgren	Karl Strauss
Les Kovacs	Nick Suncin
Miles Kristman	Doug Young
Andrew LaGaly	Mark Vreeken
	<i>And many more</i>

## SUNDAY EXTRA BOARD

### September

Locos	Engineers	Workers
City of LA—Fuad #8—LASRM SP PA1—LALSRM SP 7660—Bresee Santa Fe Electric— LALSRM SP 2468—LALS SP Center Cab 1500—LALSRM	Francis Barnes Mel Bresee Ray Burden Christie Edinger Peter Fuad Larry Mitchell Greg Pschaida Steve Sauer Mark Vreeken	<b>Safety Coordinators</b> —Ron Hitchcock, Chuck Mohr, Bob Crone, Robert Guzman  <b>Station Masters</b> —George Becker, Bob Crone, Gary Evans, Robert Guzman, Wayne Crabb, George Becker, Larry Mitchell, Tom Crue  <b>Souvenirs and Tickets</b> —Martha Figueroa, Karl Strauss, others

### Conductors

Bob Crone	Carolyn Hoagland
Tom Crue	Karl Strauss
Gary Evans	Glen Manchester
John Garcia	Scott Hoagland
Paul Liu	Mark Vreeken
Greg Pschaida	Roberto Lopez
Bob Quinn	Larry Mitchell
Christie Edinger	Darrell Payne

### Ridership and Max Temps

September 4	789	76°
September 11	728	85°
September 18	727	101°
September 25	483	99°

### Riders

September 2016 — 2,727  
 Total 2016 — 24,700  
 Total 2015 — 22,995

## Member Schedule

### October

- 22 Halloween Potluck/Movie Night/Night Run
- 23, 30 Public Rides

### November

- 6 Public Rides
- 7 **BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.**
- 13 Public Rides
- 19 Work Day/Member Meeting/  
**Ballots Due; Election Results**
- 20 Public Rides/Disney Barn Open
- 27 Public Rides



GP 9s at Fall Meet. (Alex O'Donnell Photo)

# Happy Halloween!

**SATURDAY, OCTOBER 22**  
**HALLOWEEN POTLUCK / MOVIE NIGHT / NIGHT RUN**

*For LALSRM Members and their Guests — Costumes Optional*

## SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

**5:00 to 5:45 pm — Trick or Treat at:**

New Sherwood Station • Sutchville Station • Disney Barn

### TRICK OR TREAT



**5:45 pm — Costume Parade at:**

Goudie Pavilion

**6:15 pm — Potluck Dinner**

*Special kids menu items: Mac 'n' Cheese, Hot Dogs, Spooky Cupcakes*



### MOVIES AT DUSK

Free Popcorn

**"Pooh's Heffalump  
Halloween Movie"**

**"Mad Monster  
Party"**



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