

ENGINE



BOOSTER

June 2016

1956

60

2016

www.lalsr.org



LALSRM Celebrates 60 Years of Live Steam in Style

By Martha Figueroa

Founded in 1956 by a dedicated and talented band of live steam enthusiasts, LALSRM has flourished and now proudly celebrates its 60th year.

To honor the many men and women who have contributed their skill, passion and hard work to keep live steam running in Los Angeles, we gather with family, friends and rail fans from near and far to run our trains and enjoy the camaraderie of like-minded people.

Thursday and Friday sees tents and campers popping up, equipment being unloaded onto steaming bays, and friends who have not seen one another for a year catching up.

Our Annual Spaghetti Dinner, with meatballs and sausage from Claro's Italian Market, and served by the Board of Directors on Friday evening, is the weekend kick-off.

Saturday morning starts with breakfast in the Kountry Kitchen, followed by Open-

ing Ceremonies at 10:00. Ralph Mohutsky, cantor at the Mission San Gabriel, sang our National Anthem. Ron Hitchcock welcomed us and Vice President Roger Williams cut the blue and silver ribbon at Sutchville Station.

After lunch on Saturday, photographer Patricia Maureen memorialized our special weekend with a panoramic photo of our railroad family (see above).

While trains of different eras took members and guests for rides across our eleven acres of track, children took turns trying to release the candy from an enormous 3-layer cake piñata. Peter Bowen hosted BINGO, which now attracts 50 players. Carolyn Hayes, our Arts'n'Crafts coordinator for over 20 years, provided an assortment of spectacular projects for our children.

Saturday Night Dinner

To set the mood for dinner, The Fabulous Esquires Big Band orchestra, directed by Eric Brandon, played the mellow favor-

ites of the 30's and 40's. A non-profit organization, he introduces swing style music to the younger generations of musicians. Dinner was provided by Naples Rib Company, Long Beach, CA. Our Raffle was graced by wonderful prizes, such as wine baskets from San Antonio Winery and mini-succulent gardens in pottery by

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Public Service

June

26 Public Rides

July

3, 17 Public Rides/Disney Barn Open

10 Public Rides

17, 24 Public Rides

31 Public Rides

From the Super



By Ted Merchant
General
Superintendent

Hello Train-Fans!
Well, how about that Spring Meet?! The comradery was impressive. Attendees

were having fun and enjoying each other as much as ever.

I must have received 25 complements regarding the campus being neat, clean and fireproof! I congratulate you all for making such an effort and for making the grounds inviting.

Please complement those listed on Who's Been Workin' on the Railroad as well as any others you know who helped out.

The work-day and general meeting on June 18 was HOT! Still, about a dozen members came out to work. The main accomplishments were raking pine needles, addressing areas of erosion and replacing the railroad tie retaining wall on the Mountain Route.

The place looks good! Pine needles will always be a challenge but our need for raking is minimal and that means we should all be out playing with trains!

I welcome anyone who wants to work any Saturday, but now I encourage you to bring out your trains and give people, including workers, a ride. That is what we do! As usual, if you find something that needs to be cleaned up... then clean it up! Keep the Club something we can proudly show to our friends. And that's the way it is!

I hope all you fathers, future fathers, fans with fathers and those who made fathers had an enjoyable Fathers' Day.

Keep up your steam and I'll see you at the rails. Your comments and questions are always welcome.

Ted Merchant,
EBMerchant@sbcglobal.net.

Splinters from the Board



June 6, 2016

Party requests for Ron Bergmann July 23rd and Jon Newbill July 4th were submitted. Both party requests approved.

Membership: Prospective resident members Mike Gendal and Karl Strauss were introduced. New non resident members Tom Mc Collum, Gary Mocko, and Gordon Oldham were announced.

Superintendent: Ted Thanked everyone for working so hard to help get the club looking so great for the spring meet. Ted would like to get a small group together to start putting fire extinguisher posts all around the railroad. The scouts are tentatively coming the 3rd weekend of July to hopefully finish the small retaining wall near the monument. We are looking for some volunteers to give them train rides that day. Please see Ted.

Facility Planning: Aaron Emmer submitted an FCR to retroactively make the east end mining town an official feature of the railroad. Approval has been given by the board and the FCR chairman. There will be a vote taken at the next General meeting.

Operations: Please keep a close eye on your speed and never exceed 6 mph when running public trains. Be sure to have a working radio with you tuned to the appropriate channel at all times when running any train during the Sunday run. 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 Electric service building plans are still with the city and awaiting final approval. The Gauge one railroad is finished and was a big hit at the meet. Les Thanked Tim and his crew for their very hard work making it a reality. John Smith proposed that we name the gauge one railroad the LaGaly loop. The propane tank pad is ready to receive the tank any day now. All of the fuel storage will be moved on to a

fuel island attached to the propane tank pad. We will install a fuel siding for access and hope to make the process simpler and neater. The office will be moved back to the S.P. Caboose. Alex O'Donnell explained that the one inch expansion will be built as an independent railroad on the west end until it's ready to be connected through one of the tunnels. The area where the two gauges meet will use four rails and be fully signal protected. There was lots of positive feedback from the members and from our guests during the meet. We plan to have dies made to extrude the aluminum rail needed to complete this project.

New Business: The Fall meet will be held on its traditional first weekend of October. That will be the weekend of October 1st. Naples Rib company did not treat us well, giving us very small portions and they charged more than normal. We do not intend to use them anymore.

Announcements: Please come out and run your equipment, Sunday is our official run day! Just be sure you have a working radio with you on the proper channel and please keep your train off the station platform unless asked to do otherwise. Steam trains are especially welcome, come on out and run your trains, steam or otherwise and enjoy your railroad. The public loves seeing our equipment and the more LALS RM is enjoyed the better!



Jay Leno's first experience engineering a steam engine (Rick's Sweet Creek #6) following Harrison Hitchcock's interview and high-ball instruction at Spring Meet. (Joe Bievens photo)



Above and below: Photos from last year's event.

Sunday, June 26

Third Annual "Rail & Road Reunion" Promises to Stoke Your Fire

By Diana Manchester

Excitement is building for our third annual "show and tell" exhibition to be held on LALS RM grounds Sunday, June 26 from 10 am to 4 pm.

Featured this year will be:

- Model A automobiles and trucks
- Classic and eclectic vehicles of all kinds, including motorcycles
- Historical vehicles and displays
- Steam, diesel, gas, and electric trains of many scales, including our new Gauge One railroad
- Live wood carving and artists' exhibits
- Steam powered toys, models and collectibles of all kinds

The Disney Barn will be open and Jaime in the Kountry Kitchen will be grilling members' favorites. There will be a dedicated steam train for members and their guests to ride PLUS a 1" train for children to ride, run by Josh Garcia



This event is for members and invited guests only (closed to the public.) Please ask your guests to meet you at the public club entrance or the private rear gate.

If you are displaying vehicles or collectibles, please be at LALS RM no later than 9:30 am. If you would like to participate, or have any questions, please call event coordinator Flemming Nielsen at (818) 843-2751.

Great Strides Made on the LALS RM Film Documentary

By Miles Kristman and Diana Manchester

Quite a bit of filming and still photography was shot during the Spring Meet and a couple of Sundays earlier in May. We now have 40 hours of unique new footage shot in high definition, wide screen format.

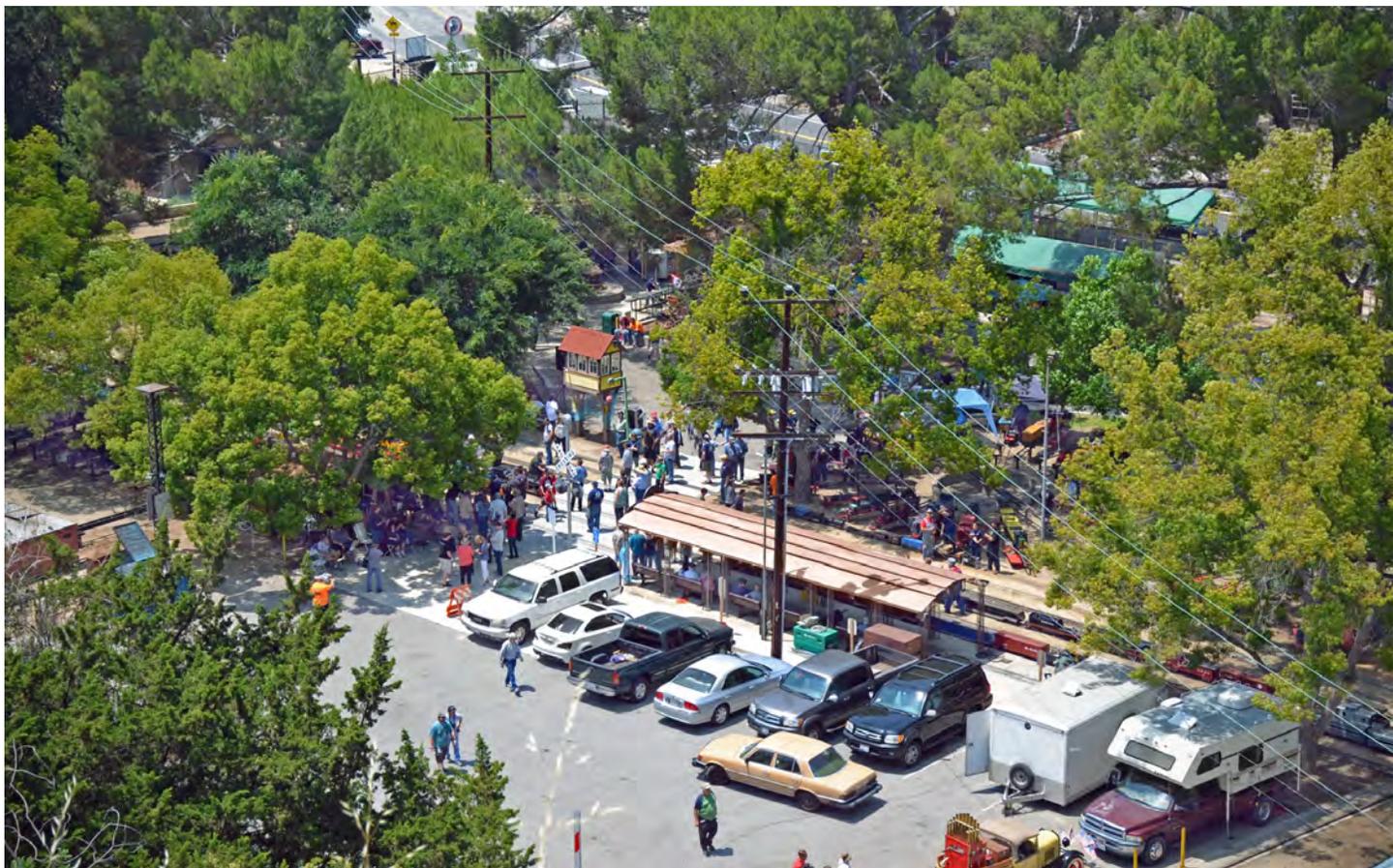
This footage includes locomotives and trains of many models, vintages and scales running on our expansive layout at the nicest time of year, plus interviews with members (some whose membership in the Club dates back to the earlier years).

The purpose of this documentary is to provide education, enjoyment and inspiration to members and rail fans regarding the unique live steam experience at LALS RM. It provides a valuable visual and audio account of one of the largest live steam clubs in the U.S. -- how we got started and built the beautiful facility we enjoy today; the incredible variety and quality of the trains running here; the chance to meet members who have contributed to our legacy; and seeing new generations' excitement and participation in our hobby.

Thank you Mike Stockton, Brandon Ruiz, Eric Roehm and Amy Stockton Roehm for your many, many (free) hours of planning, research, filming, scanning archival photos, building a special flat car for the videocam, organizing footage, editing a initial presentation for the Board, and all your creativity, passion and hard work.

The next step is to edit all these hours of footage and still photos into a 20+ minute documentary. This will take time and money, and is under consideration by the Board.

Our last museum video is ten years old, and this new film will be an exciting and accurate update. Members' feedback is welcome.



▲ Aerial View of Spring Meet (Glen Manchester photo). ► Saturday Night Raffle offered great prizes. Martha Figueroa, Spring Meet Chair, officiates along with Roger Williams, VP, Board of Directors. Thank you, Martha, for coordinating a fabulous Spring Meet (Diana Manchester photo).

Celebrating 60 Years of Live Steam in Style

(Continued from page 1)
 Melody Nielson. To celebrate our 60th birthday in style, a four-tier chocolate cake, decorated in blue and silver fondant, was made by Angela Jones. The overhead strings of lights came on and trains ran long into the night.

The Presidents' Auction is funded by your efforts of cleaning out your garages and closets. We had a very successful auction this year with wonderful items offered. The main man was our very own Jim Logan, who would outbid you, then turn around and give you the item as a thoughtful gesture.

Our Meet would not be possible without our many volunteers, who worked hard behind the scenes to make the weekend special for everyone. Thank you Don Kallgren, the kitchen staff, Dee Barnes and the souvenir staff, Ted Merchant, Diana Manchester, our Board, our vendors, and many others. Special thanks to John Goulding for supplying the Kountry Kitchen and to Tom Lang who coordinated Gate Duty. Most of all, we thank you, the TRAIN ENTHUSIAST, who keeps live steam railroading alive.



The *Engine Booster* is the monthly publication of the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum, a not for profit 501(c)(3) organization.
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 Editor — Peter Fuad



▲ Setting up the new tank.
 ► Roger and John smooth and level the concrete base.



New Propane Tank Arrives at the Layout

By Roger Williams

A new 500 gallon propane tank has arrived at the club.

We have been working very diligently on improving and upgrading our infrastructure at the layout. The new tank setup has an electric pump, so the days of hand pumping are over. It also has a meter, so that we can measure exactly how much we are dispensing at a time.

A new concrete base was poured by myself and John DePhillip Jr. a few weeks earlier. The new tank has been delivered and I seated into place with the help of Les Kovacs.

I should be running electric power to it later in the week, if the weather ever cools down.

A special thanks to John Valencia for helping me on this project, and Dan Wessel of Wessel propane for servicing us on this project and for the last several years. As soon as it is ready for service, I will update in the *Booster*.

President's Message



By Les Kovacs
 President

Summer is upon us and so is the heat. So when coming out make sure you don't overdo it and keep hydrated. As for now the railroad is in pretty good shape, but there is always something to-do. If you have time please come out and help. We will be having movies and pot lucks all summer so check out the newsletter for times.

The new propane tank has been installed and will be up and running soon. Summer is also a time for vacations so be safe in travels. If you're staying close to home come out and just enjoy the facility. Take a train ride and have a picnic. It's a great place to just spend an evening and forget about life's problems. Let's make this enjoyable for all, come out let's have fun running trains.



The Esquires at Saturday evening dinner. (Diana Manchester Photo)

Vice President's Message

Successful Spring Meet Team Effort

By Roger Williams
Vice President

I must start by saying what a success our 60th anniversary meet turned out to be. I was repeatedly approached by guests and members thanking us for such an enjoyable meet. People were so thrilled that the layout was so clean, trimmed, and clutter free. The main attraction was the new Gauge-1 layout.

Tim Lagaly and his many worker elves had just finished laying track just in time for a good day of steaming on Saturday. We even had a special guest "Jay Leno" stop by and hijacked Rick Gross's steam engine for a ride. What great weekend of live steam fellowship.

I really want to express my gratitude to the few board members that assisted me with the meet through out the weekend, Martha Figueroa for all that she does, Dee Barnes, Diane Manchester and all the other members unmentioned that were scrambling during the meet.

I also want to thank Miles Kristman for directing the fine camera work of our newer members Mike Stockton and Brandon Ruiz for documenting the spring meet. Thank you all!



▲ Roger Williams and Nick Suncin with Jay Leno.

◀ Jay Leno running Rick Gross's 2-6-0 Sweet Creek, with Harrison Hitchcock supervising. "Jay did good," Harrison said. "He seemed comfy running steam since he does have steam cars. He joked about needing one of these now." (Fred Lack photo)



Jay Leno with the filming crew. (Diana Manchester photo).

Member Schedule

June

- 25** Pot Luck/ Night Run/Live Steamers Movie night
- 26** Public Rides
- 30** 2015-16 Shed Lease Year Ends

July

- 1** 2016-17 Full Shed Lease Year Begins
- 2** Change Direction
- 10** Public Rides
- 11** Board Meeting 7 pm
- 3, 17** Public Rides/Disney Barn Open
- 16** Work Day/Member Meeting
- 17, 24** Public Rides
- 30** Pot Luck/ Night Run/Live Steamers Movie night
- 31** Public Rides

SUNDAY EXTRA BOARD

May

Locos	Engineers	Conductors	
City of LA—Fuad	Francis Barnes	Steve Sauber	Bob Quinn
SP PA1—LALSRM	Mel Bresee	Carolyn Hoagland	Bob Crone
SP 7660—Bresee	Christie Edinger	Larry Mitchell	Wolf Fengler
Santa Fe Electric—LALSRM	Jeremy Steinhart	Martha Figueroa	Wolf Fengler
Steam #8—LALS	Peter Fuad	Mark Vreeken	Sy Siedel
SP 2468	Harrison Hitchcock	Ron Hitchcock	Darrell Payne
SP Center Cab 1500—LALSRM	Andrew Chaves		
	Scott Hoagland		
	Bob Crone		
	Collin Westphal		



Safety Coordinators—Ron Hitchcock, Wayne Crabb, Michael Murphy

Station Masters—Gary Evans, Robert Guzman, Wayne Crabb, George Becker

Souvenirs and Tickets—Lucille Secara, Dee Barnes, Ruth Payne

Ridership and Max Temps

May 1	697	72°
May 8	488	69°
May 15	931	72°
May 22	753	71°

Riders: May 2016 — 2,869

Total 2016 — 13,908

Total 2015 — 12,840

Bring Your Jacket to Be Embroidered

For those wanting a jacket embroidered with the blue and silver 60th Anniversary logo, please bring your (new or clean) jacket to the Club by Sunday, June 26. Diana Manchester will be collecting them. The cost for a large logo embroidered on the back plus your name on the front is \$74.12. If you wish to add a small embroidered logo to the front as well, the cost is \$81.75. Here is what it looks like:



Who's been Working on the Railroad

Steve Altmayer
Francis Barnes
Dee Barnes
Ron Bergmann
Stevy Brock
Dave Clark
Wayne Crabb,
Bob Crone
Tome Crue
John DePhillip
Gary Evans
Martha Figueroa
John Goulding
Rick Gross
Ross Harper
Scott Hoagland
Les Kovacs
Miles Kristman
Andrew LaGaly
Tim LaGaly
Tony Lambler
Diana Manchester
Glen Manchester
Ted Merchant

Greg McMurry
Michael Murphy
Alex O'Donnell
Darrell Payne
Charles Rhodes
Amy Roehm
Austin Roehm
Eric Roehm
Steve Rodstein
Brandon Ruiz
Steve Sauber
John Smith
Dani Smith
Steve Sauber
Jeremy Steinert
Mike Stockton
Karl Strauss
Nick Suncin
Doug Young
Mark Vreeken
Collin Westphal
Roger Williams
... and many others

Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum



In Griffith Park 5202 Zoo Dr., Los Angeles, California
Mailing Address—PO Box 2156, Toluca Lake, CA 91610
Phone (323) 661-8958
Website - www.lals.org

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

Gauge One's Incredible Debut at Spring Meet

By Bob Crone

Against all odds, the dedicated Gauge One team persevered and got the 262' mainline installed and running for the Meet.

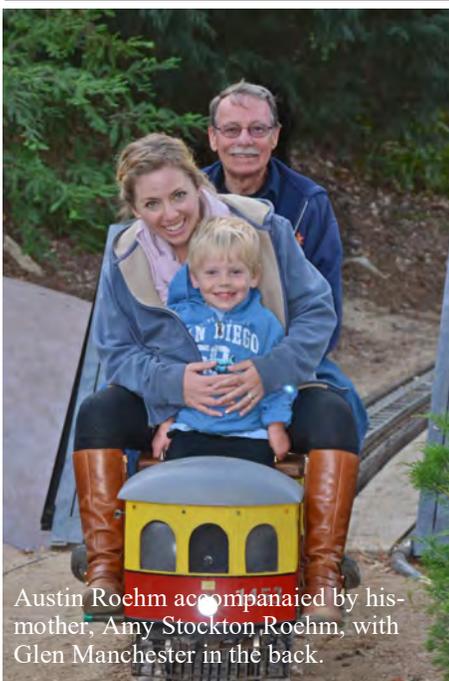
"I thought it was impossible. The last three days before the Meet were especially intense. Rick Gross, Tim and Andrew LaGaly, Gary Evans and Steve Altmayer logged many long hours. Even Accucraft and visitors from other clubs were helping assemble track and ties on Saturday," reported Bob Crone.

Rick Gross's SP F4 2-10-2 made the first run at 3 p.m. to test the tracks. "You never know what glitches may need to be finessed before the track is truly operational and safe to run on. These trains are expensive and you don't want them to derail or fall. The track ran as smooth as glass," said Bob.

Much more progress is planned. To complete the yards and steaming bays, 18 switches are needed. Ten have been laid. A turntable will be added, as well as ballast. John Smith has offered to install lighting. If you would like to help (financially or in other ways), we will be able to make the layout more useful and efficient. Please deliver checks made payable to LALS RM to Tim LaGaly. Remember, your contributions are tax deductible.



▲ Those responsible for getting the Gauge One Track construction done in time for the Meet. Back Row: Andrew LaGaly and Gary Evans, Front Row: Robert Guzman, Tim LaGaly and Steve Altmayer. Not shown: Rick Gross. ▼ Rick Gross fuels up his Accucraft Alleghany 2-6-6-6. . (Diana Manchester Photos)



Austin Roehm accompanied by his-mother, Amy Stockton Roehm, with Glen Manchester in the back.



Halloween Props are (Finally) Gone

By Roger Williams

After years of members asking not to see skeletons, devil babies, and ghouls in the middle of summer, left out from all the previous years of the Halloween fundraiser.

I am happy to announce that the club has been officially cleaned up and looks railway once again. We had a good group of people working very hard every night leading up into the week of the spring meet.

We ran two hay trains disposing of rotting decomposing hay bales in the west end. The truss work that held the UFO prop that was attached to the Phil West barn was torn down and the holes and damage to the Phil West was repaired by Jay Carsman.

The 2x4's that were anchored to the Sutchville station floor were removed. Multitude of Pirate props left in peaceful city of Inchberg, were torn down and that whole area was cleaned up. Granny's cabin

going out to the west end was dismantled and moved.

The mariachi death village and wooden hearse that adorned the layout for many years was demolished. The multitude of death crypts that cluttered the smith valley line were moved out.

All the left over debris that included the 10 foot wooden turntable rotting away near the west end gate was removed and junked.

We filled up 2 full length roll-off dumpsters! We did leave a few props up, because members requested to keep them, including the east end western town, and gramps cabin.

Thanks to Arron Emmer and Lloyd Davis for working so hard on the western town. The covered bridge was disassembled and will be reinstalled in a proper and safe location as soon as a FCR is approved by BOD, safety and operations.

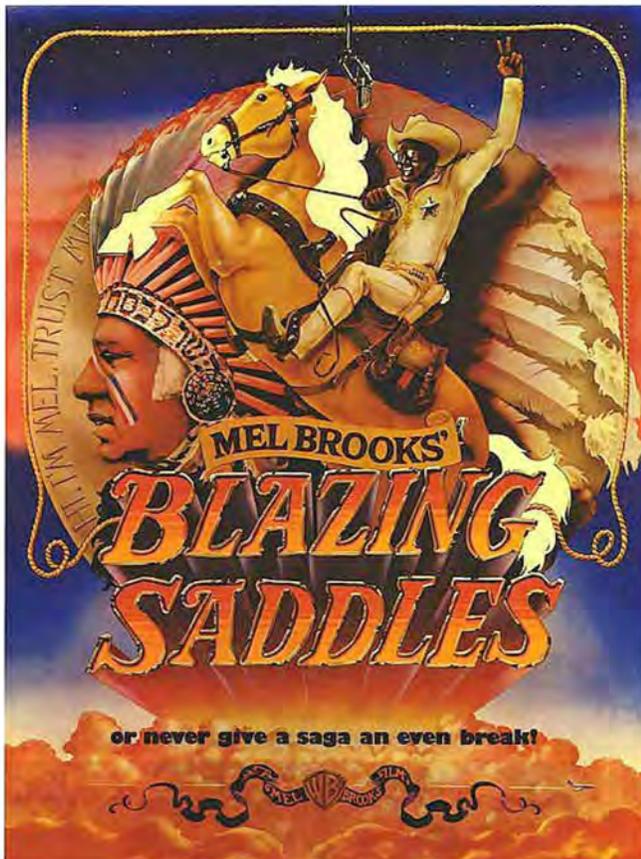
I would also like to thank Nick Suncin for being invaluable when it came time to

clean up all the brush and landscaping with his team as well as Ted Merchant working and directing people on work days.

I would also like to thank all the people who were instrumental on the cleaning and dumping, which includes but not limited to Andrew Lagaly, Don Kallgren, Chris Solak, Colin Westphal, Alex O'donnell, Jay Carsman, Les Kovacs and all the other people I forgot to mention. Thanks for making this club look great again! We really shined during the because of you all.

Have You Picked Up Your 2016 ROSTER?

This Sunday, June 26, will be the last day to pick up your 2016 Roster. Please see Diana Manchester in the Goudie Pavilion area. They will also be available at the Night Run Saturday evening, June 25. The remainder will be mailed.



MOVIE NIGHT & TRAIN NIGHT RUN

SATURDAY, JUNE 25, 2016

Potluck Dinner starts at 6 pm.

Movie starts at dusk.

Bring a blanket or lawn chairs.

Free popcorn.

For information call:

Martha (626) 232-7053

Peter Bowen (805) 216-9743



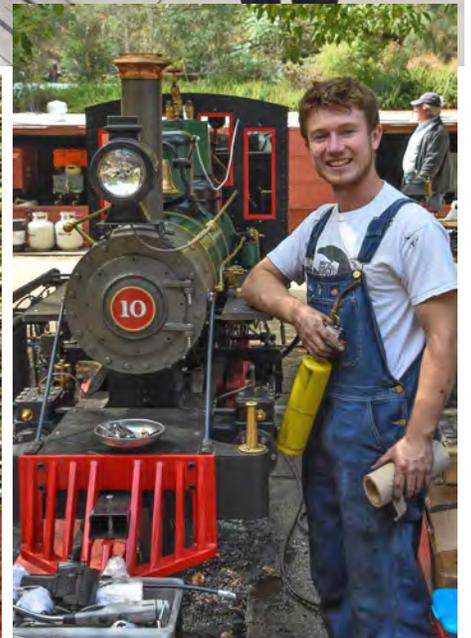
1956 **60** 2016
Years of Railroading

Spring Meet Photos

► Opening Ceremony with vocalist Ralph Mosutsky performing the national anthem under our beautiful 60th Anniversary sign at Sutchville Station



▲ A beautiful 1" scale Atlantic 4-4-2 steam locomotive, owned and run by member Colin Campbell. (Frank O'Donnell Photo) ▼ Bruce Ward's Lion. (photo by Nick Guzman)



Charlie Giordano, Charlie writes: "This is an RMI Prairie owned by a gentleman I work for. He also owns the other (#9) RMI Sweet Creek I brought. I'm responsible for these locomotives and it's up to me to bring them down from SM and run them time to time." Charlie was able to get these two locos steamed up at the same time to double-head on Sunday, and pulled a long passenger train full of families and railfans. There are several videos on Charlie Giordano's Facebook page. (Frank O'Donnell Photo)