

LALS ENGINE BOOSTER

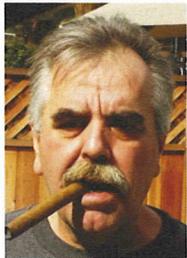


July 2015

Celebrating 59 Years

www.lals.org

President's Message



By Les Kovacs
President

Wow, the year is half over. I'm back from vacation and trying to get back in the swing of things.

Small scales meet is coming up on July 25-26. I know it's hot and difficult to work in this heat – remember to drink plenty of water.

Fall Meet

We need a lot of help to get ready for the fall meet. In the last newsletter I gave the incorrect date for the meet – the correct date will be September 12-13. We will be serving lunch only on these two days. We are hoping for a great turnout. If we have a decent turnout we hope to have a bigger meet next year.

Halloween

Also, we are going to do Halloween and the fall meet at the same time. We'll be bringing out the trailer in August, and get it unloaded. The decorations that will be set up will not interfere with the meet. The infield will be clear and the displays will be off the track so it shouldn't interfere with the meet.

The library is very close to being finished – just putting final touches. Greg and Miles are almost done with the security camera system and that should be up and running soon. We're also going to have a second line so Wi-Fi will be available and the club computers will run on its own standalone system.

While I was on vacation, we had the antique car show, and I'd like to thank Fleming for all of his hard work and all of the others who helped to put this event on.

I'm noticing trash around the club – if you see any please pick it up and throw it away.

We were considering a water treatment facility however after careful study we are just going to stay with the Culligan water service to have soft water and leave it up to the individual to purchase their own boiler treatment. We will not recommend or endorse any water treatments. It is your responsibility for your individual boiler treatment.

Public Service

July

26 Public Rides

August

2 Public Rides

9 Public Rides

16 Public Rides/Disney Barn Open

23 Public Rides

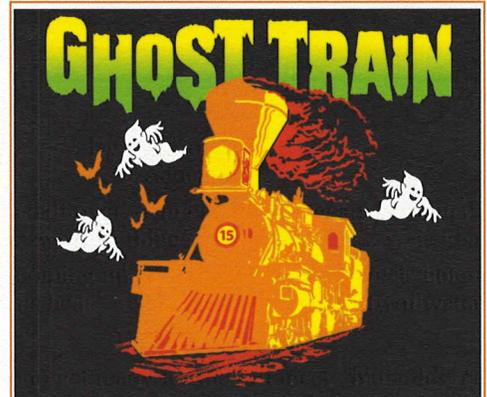
30 Public Rides

Conduct

On a serious note, we need to address our code of conduct. There have been instances where individuals have created a scene in the public and guest's view. This cannot happen. We are all adults and need to behave ourselves.

If there is a problem you can't resolve please bring this to the attention of the board so we can be of assistance.

Remember we're all here to have fun.



Halloween is a "Go" for 2015!

We WILL be hosting the LALS Ghost Train event again this year.

The dates are being confirmed, but most likely will run for 10 days. Tentative dates are Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 16, 17, 18 and 23, 24 and 25; and Thursday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday, October 28 – 31 and November 1.

The first Halloween work day will be Saturday, August 22. This will follow the regular Club workday of the Saturday before (August 15th).

Watch for sign-up sheets in the Kountry Kitchen for volunteer opportunities.

For more information, call Aaron Emmer at (818) 268-1834 or Gary Baker at (626) 926-4208.

Diana Manchester

Splinters from the Board



By Nick Suncin
July 6

Secretary's Report:

Three party requests were submitted and approved: Bill Barbe on September 26th at the

Disney barn, Don Kallgren on August 8th, and Ted Merchant on September 26th.

Membership: Prospective resident member John Garcia was introduced and has begun his probation.

General Superintendent: the one inch railroad needs to be cleaned up for the upcoming small scales meet. The Eagle scouts project is still on track. Grading of the area will begin August 3rd Shed committee: shed rentals have gone out and are due at the end of July.

Facility Planning: The gauge one track delivery has been delayed by a couple of weeks. The one inch station plans are still pending.

Safety: We are in the process of reviewing and revamping our rules and standards for narrow gauge equipment.

Old business: We still need to get bids for the painting of the station. We have lots of firewood to give away.

Announcements: The city lunch will be held on August 19th the fall meet is coming up September 12&13th. There is a tentative plan to move the Halloween trailer out to the parking lot at the end of August.

Please keep the maintenance bay clear of equipment it's not a storage area. Though most of us are having a great time enjoying the club, some of us are not. Therefore it's very important that we all adhere to the code of conduct and leave our problems outside the gates and do our best to have fun.

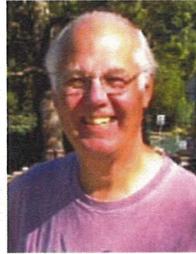
Engineer Classes

Want to be an engineer entitled to pull the public? Engineer classes are held quarterly and include testing. If you would like to attend a class call Michael Murphy at (818) 897-4254 to reserve your spot in the class.

You must have passed the Level 1 Conductor class.

From the Super

By Ted Merchant
General Superintendent



Hello Train-Fans!

"It's summer time and the living is easy. " So come on down and enjoy the Club! If you are crazy like me, you can come down and enjoy WORKING AT THE CLUB. It's all fun! I must admit... I will be in New York during our next official work-Saturday, but please come out and help anyhow. Again, the Board thanks everyone who comes out to work and make our Club the best it can be.

Our most immediate need is to rake leaves and pine needles in anticipation of the small-scale meet held July 24th and 25th. Please come out and help any time you can including non-Saturdays. Leaves are best removed using metal rakes and burlap tarps located in the tool shed. Pine needles are best removed using the purple plastic manure rakes and tarps also in the tool shed. Please dump all leaves and needles at the wall on Crystal Springs Drive.

Another issue is LITTER. Every time I visit the Club I find myself picking up other peoples trash. What's that about! Please discard your trash in the multiple trash cans located around our facility. If you can, please pick up any litter you see on the ground. It will significantly improve the appearance of our Club.

Lastly, come out and play! Remember the Small Scale Meet. Bring out and enjoy your own equipment. And, most important, say "HI!" to a new member and strike up a conversation.

So that's the way it is! Relax, be happy and keep up your steam! Your comments and questions are always welcome. See you at the rails.

EBMerchant@sbcglobal.net.

Movie Night!

Join us July 25, Saturday, for MOVIE NIGHT. We share a POT-LUCK DINNER AND DESSERT. This gives an opportunity for everyone to participate from home made treats to store-bought goods. Don't feel guilty if you don't bring anything...

We also have a **DONATION BOX for \$ money \$** to help support movie night.

Dust off your folding shares, bring your smile and enjoy the show. Free Popcorn, Candy & soda's for \$1.00. Dinner starts at 6p.m. and our movie starts at dusk between 7:30 - 8p.m. Don't miss out on all the fun we 30 members for dinner in June.

Thank You EVERYONE for SUPPORTING MOVIE NIGHT.

Martha Figueroa and Peter Bowen

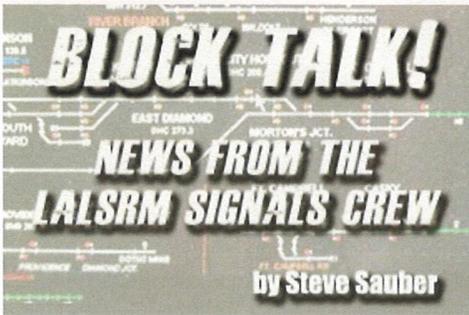
Member Schedule

July

- 25 Movie Night and Pot Luck Dinner and Dessert
- 25 Small Scales Meet
- 26 Public Rides

August

- 2 Public Rides
- 3 Board Meeting
- 9 Public Rides
- 15 Work Day/Member Meeting
- 16 Public Rides/Disney Barn Open
- 24 Movie Night and Pot Luck Dinner and Dessert
- 23 Public Rides
- 30 Public Rides



Welcome to another edition of *Block Talk!*, the quarterly bulletin from the LALSRR Signals Division. Today we'll tell you about two new developments that we're pretty excited about.

1. Improved Safety Margin between Nelson Tunnel and New Sherwood Station.

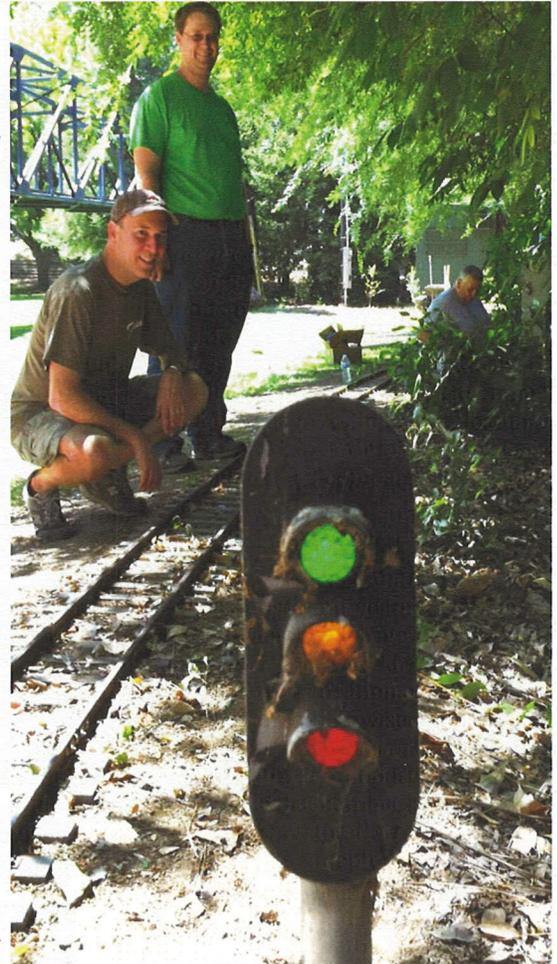
On July 5th, the Signals Division addressed a potentially unsafe situation that caught our attention. Whenever an east-bound train entered Nelson Tunnel with a red over yellow (or red over red over yellow) indication at the tunnel entrance, the possibility existed that another train might be stopped just ahead of it in front of the Santa Fe caboose. Without being able to see that stopped train until clearing the tunnel, the approaching train might have to brake quickly in an unsafe manner.

To improve safety in this location, the Signals Division made some changes to the train detection logic between the tunnel and New Sherwood Station. Specifically,

the signals on the tunnel entrance will now show red over red (or red over red over red) *until the stopped train's caboose is within 30 feet of the station platform on track ST2, or 25 feet on ST1.* This R/R/R aspect will cue the engineer of the approaching train to *hold at the tunnel entrance* rather than proceed through it blindly and risk coming upon an unexpected—and possibly unsafe—situation on the other side. The change we implemented has resulted in an additional 27 feet of 'safety margin' on the track leading to ST1, and an additional 19 feet leading to ST2 compared to where it was before.

2. Smith Valley: Let There Be Light(s)!

After several years of darkness, the signals in Smith Valley have sprung back to life! Thanks to the tireless efforts of Signals Yoda John Smith, you will now see illuminated signals on both sides of Stutson Crossing. In addition to that accomplishment—which marks the beginning of the restoration phase—we'll be repairing & deploying more signals in the West End in the weeks ahead. When you see us out there, stop by and say howdy or ask us any questions you may have.



Green Over Yellow Over Red??? Can you imagine the confused looks on our engineers' faces when they arrive at this indication?! Actually, this signal is in a special 'test mode' as the crew has just fired it up for the first time in many years. Steve and Jeremy look on proudly, while John works his magic in the background.

Just who are these signal guys, anyway?

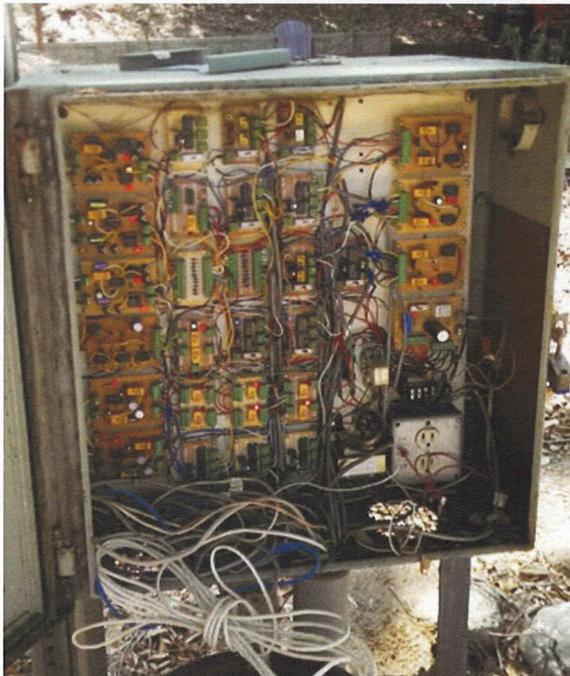
The new Signals Division's board of directors, slowly assuming responsibilities from Signals Master John Smith, is comprised of Charles Rhoades, Jeremy Steinert, Stevo Brock, Wayne Crabb, and Steve Sauber.

Our threefold mission is to ensure the safe operation of trains at our club, to educate members about the signal system, and to maintain and upgrade the system so it continues to operate reliably for years to come.

If you'd like to be a part of the Signals Division, ask us about our apprenticeship program. You'll find us at LALS on work Saturdays and on most Sundays.



Is it Level Yet? Four members of the LALSRR Signals Division reposition a panel box after pulling it out of the mud in Smith Valley, the first step in restoring west end signals to operating condition. Pictured, clockwise from bottom: Stevo Brock, Jeremy Steinert, Steve Sauber, Wayne Crabb.



Where the Magic Happens: The circuitry in this panel box controls signals and switches between Nelson Tunnel and New Sherwood Station. (All photos: Steve Sauber)



Show and Tell and Spring Meet

◀ Late 1931 Model A.

▼ Garibalde Figueroa

Diana Manchester Photos



Los Angeles
Live Steamers
Railroad Museum

FALL MEET 2015

September 12-13, 2015

7-1/2, 4-3/4, & 3-1/2"
GAUGE TRACKS
FOR STEAM,
DIESEL & ELECTRIC

Saturday Lunch & Dinner \$7.00

Sunday Breakfast \$5.00

**Los Angeles Live Steamers
Railroad Museum**

5202 Zoo Drive,
Los Angeles, CA. 90027
1 mile west of the Los Angeles Zoo

For more information contact

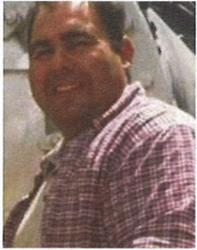
Martha at: (626) 232-7053

or email figthree@msn.com | Subject: Fall Meet



Dan O'Brien running his recently completed 2 inch scale Porter 0-4-2 Tank locomotive at LALS. Photo by Frances O'Brien.

NUTS AND BOLTS



By Roger Williams

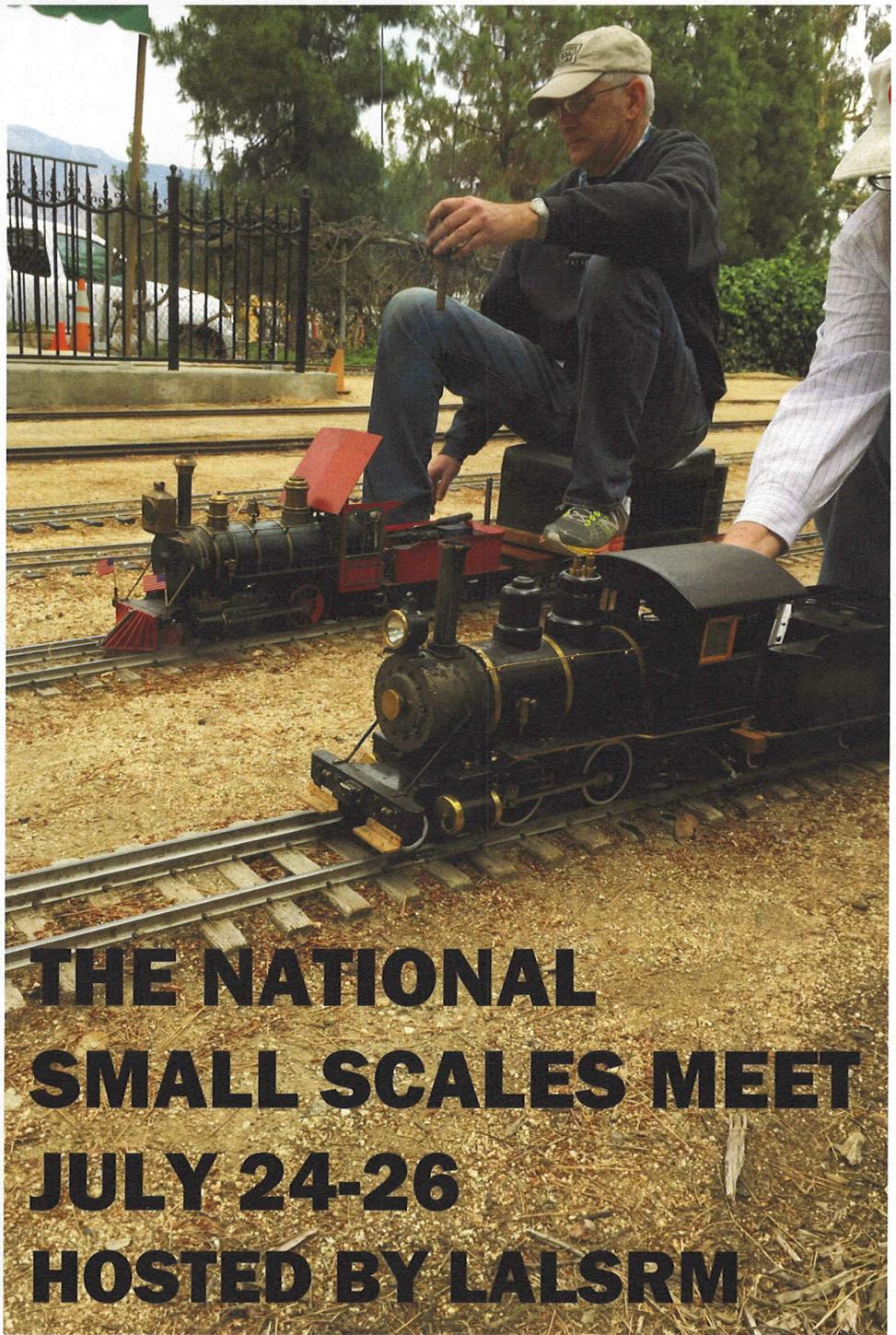
I have had several members ask questions regarding boiler treatment. I encourage everyone to do their own research and find out what is best for their specific application. Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum do not and have never endorsed any kind of boiler treatment.

Small scales meets is just around the corner. Time to wipe off your small gauge equipment and join the citizens of Inehberg for a fun filled weekend.

2015 Rosters Are Out

By Wilbur Dong

For those of you who have not picked up your 2015 Roster at the LALSRRM Track, you should be getting them in the mail shortly. Cary Stewart and I printed the labels, stuffed and put stamps on 172 envelopes that were mailed on Friday (7/10/13).



**THE NATIONAL
SMALL SCALES MEET
JULY 24-26
HOSTED BY LALSRRM**

National Small Scales Meet July 24-26

By Alex O'Donnell

This year, the National Small Scales Meet will return to LALS on July 24-26 for the first time in several years.

Anybody with running or static equipment in 4-3/4" and 3-1/2" gauges as well as those interested in the smaller gauges is

welcome to attend this event. Lunch and a potluck dinner will be served on Saturday. Along with night running on Saturday night after dinner, the club will also be hosting a movie night.

As described in previous months, mainline track conditions have been consistently improving in the last year thanks

to recent regrading and tie replacement operations, so make sure to come on out and enjoy these vast improvements during this fantastic gathering of the smaller scales. Next year, this event will be traveling to St. Croix Live Steamers in Minneapolis, so don't miss out on attending this special event!

Who's been Working on the Railroad

June

Steve Altmayer	Scott McCullough
Stev Brock	Greg McMurray
Wayne Crabb	Darrell Payne
Gary Evans	Charles Rhodes
Martha Figueroa	Steve Rodstein
Wolf Fengler	Larry Sack
Peter Fuad	Steve Sauber
John Goulding	John Smith
Dave Holman	Jeremy Steinert
Miles Kristman	Roger Williams
Les Kovaks	Gary Wilson
Tim LaGaly	Doug Young
Tony Landler	... and many others
Ted Merchant	

SUNDAY EXTRA BOARD

Road, Loco Owner Engineer Conductor

June 7, 2015 — 732 Riders — High 89°

City of LA—Fuad	Peter Fuad	Bob Quinn
SP 7660—Breese	Mel Bresee	Roberto Lopez
SP PA1—LALSRM	Francis Barnes	Ray Secara
Santa Fe—LALSRM	Christie Edinger, Greg Pschaida	Steve Sauber, Paul Liu
CS 73—Edinger	Christie Edinger	Steve Sauber

June 14, 2015 — 571 Riders — High 83°

City of LA—Fuad	Peter Fuad	Bob Quinn
Santa Fe—LALSRM	Jeremy Steinert, Ray Secara	Steve Sauber, Robert Guzman, Christie Edinger
MoPac—Morris	Sara Morris, Erin Morris	Erin Morris, Sara Morris

June 21, 2015 — 631 Riders — High 85°

City of LA—Fuad	Peter Fuad	Ray Secara
SP PA1—LALSRM	Steve Sauber	Sy Sediell
Santa Fe—LALSRM	Steve Sauber, Greg Pschaida	Roberto Lopez, Sy Sediell
CS 73—Edinger	Christie Edinger	Art Pahr
No. 8—LALSRM	Roger Frymire, Andrew Chaves	Darrell Payne
Thomas—Baker	Gary Baker	Christie Edinger

June 28, 2015 — 552 Riders — High 97°

Santa Fe—LALSRM		Robert Guzman
City of LA—Fuad	Peter Fuad	Bob Quinn
SP PA1—LALSRM	Jeff Groseth	Darrell Payne
Steam—Calderwood and Fengler	Sam Calderwood, Wolf Fengler	
Santa Fe—LALSRM	Christie Edinger	Robert Guzman, Paul Liu

Safety Coordinators, Station Masters, Tickets

Safety Coordinators	Bob Crone, Ron Hitchcock, Michael Murphy, Andrew Chaves, Wayne Crabb
Station Masters	Gail Woodward, Andrew Chaves, Robert Guzman, Gary Evans, Shannon Logan, Gary Evans, Wayne Crabb, Desiree Machado, Francis Barnes, Larry Mitchell
Souvenirs and Tickets	Lucille Secara, Dee Barnes, Martha Figueroa, Sy Sediell, Larissa Marko

Riders: June 2015 — 2,486

Total 2015— 15,326 Total 2014 — 124,032



The *Engine Booster* is the monthly publication of the Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum, a non-profit 501 (c)(3) organization. © LALSRM
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2015 Officers and Directors

President	Les Kovacs
Vice President	Roger Williams
Secretary	Nick Suncin
Treasurer	Steve Ruatta
Directors	David Holman, Andrew Chaves, Ted Merchant, Steve Altmayer