



# ENGINE BOOSTER

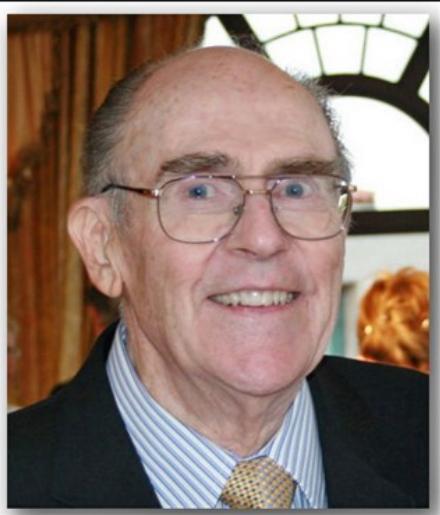
August 2017

SINCE

1956

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

## Ted Berg, 44-Year Member, Craftsman and 1" Scale Advocate, Passes at 81



Dr. Theodore Berg, D.D.S., at a 2010 ceremony where he received the Fred Gulick Distinguished Life Membership Award for his numerous contributions to the field of dentistry.

reversing loop in 2002. Without their dedication, we probably would not have the smaller scales track at LALS today."

"When John DeRosa and I joined LALS in 2003, he was the only one working on the 1" track. If it wasn't for him and Ginny, the Club was going to rip it out. He was very happy to have John and me help him work on track," said Chris Mahoney.

### A mentor and leader who saw the positives in people

Gary Baker shared about Ted from his perspective of a probationary member. "Ted and Ginny sponsored me when I first joined the Club. The two of them were a beautiful, caring couple."

"Ted had a great sense of humor, and always saw the positives in people and

(Continued on page 4)



2017 Fall Meet Set for Friday - Sunday October 6, 7 and 8

The Club has decided to keep the 2017 Fall Meet on October 6, 7, and 8, as originally scheduled. The date was confirmed by members at the General Meeting on August 19. Alex O'Donnell will head up the event with help from Martha Figueroa.

Other dates for the Fall Meet had been considered by the Board to avoid a conflict with the set up for the proposed Ghost Trains runs, but a number of members wanted to retain the original date. They noted that some attendees had already made travel arrangements for the original date. They also pointed out that in prior years both the Fall Meet and the Ghost Train setup had successfully coexisted during the three-day time period. With that impediment resolved, many members thought that there was no reason not to return to the original date.

While more lightly attended than the our Spring Meet, the Fall Meet is still recognized as an important event in the live steam community.

## Public Service

### August

20 Public Rides; Disney Barn Open/Steam Plant in operation

27 Public Rides

### September

3 Public Rides

4 *Labor Day*

10 Public Rides

17 Public Rides; Disney Barn Open/Steam Plant in operation

24 Public Rides

# Splinters from the Board



By Alex O'Donnell  
Secretary

## August 7, 2017 Board Meeting

**Membership:** Wayne Crabb introduced Ryan Hechinger, Bill and Will Walker as probationary members. Congratulations Jay Hawver for completing his hours and becoming a full resident member.

**Facility Planning:** FCR Chairperson Gary Evans gave some updates regarding the one inch scale carbarn rebuild proposed by Alex O'Donnell. The FCR and drawings are currently being redrafted as some changes have been made to the original design to accomodate a 2nd level for lightweight cars that can be lifted by hand easily. Please see Gary Evans if you have any ideas or would like to discuss any future projects.

**Program:** Program Director Martha Figueroa reported that Gage and Deanna Detchmendy donated 3 books to the library on British Railways.

**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 switches, signals, and speed - 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:** No updates on the Narrow Gauge Barn extension. Ground needs to be dug out and prepped before any foundation work can be done.

Les Kovacs will install the insulation on the interior of the kitchen storage container as soon as time permits. It gets very hot in there without any insulation and perishable food items don't last long.

Don Maddy successfully retrieved our extra worn-out 1.5" scale aluminum rail while also making a donation to the club for the materials. Special thanks to him for neatly tidying up the areas where the rail was retrieved.

**New Business:** As part of last month's proposal to contract Lloyd Davis to rebuild some club structures, he submitted a plan to rebuild the Mariachi village on the west side of the Nelson Tunnel. The façade would include two rows of 3" scale

buildings, and a 100 square foot storage area would be located behind the façade for keeping of seasonal decorations. The backside would be painted dark green to blend in with the trees and bushes facing the park, while the front façade would be somewhat similar in paint colors to Rainbow Ridge.

However, after some lengthy discussion, it was determined that the funds should be spent on vital infrastructure projects such as putting new abutments on the sinking Nelson Summit Bridge as well as looking into tie repair on the O'Brien-Moore Bridge.

Long term, Nelson Summit Bridge will likely have to be removed in order to safely and properly take out the old sinking wood tie abutments and install new concrete ones.

This work will likely be postponed for a few months as it will require shutdown of the Mountain Division and re-routing of trains through the Disney Tunnel. The bridge is stable for now and is supported by cribbing.

Peter Fuad motioned to have Lloyd Davis repair and rebuild the covered bridge on the West End.

**Announcements:** Fall Meet dates are October 6, 7 and 8. For details and volunteering in the kitchen/gatehouse, please see Fall Meet chairman Alex O'Donnell.

Member Ted Berg passed away on August 5th. Ted and his wife were very influential towards the preservation and growth of the smaller scales at LALS. They came along in the late-80's when the smaller scales were in really bad shape and saved it from the brink of extinction. Without him and his wife's dedication, we likely would not have a smaller scales track at LALS today.

The summer months are upon us, so make sure to hydrate and watch for signs of heat exhaustion. Empty all standing water to avoid mosquito growth and keep an eye out for rattlesnakes - baby rattlesnakes are silent but deadly, so watch where you step and keep your eyes out.

Attention members! Don't forget to come on out, participate, and run your equipment - Sunday is our run day! Just be sure you have a working radio. Steam engines are especially welcome.

# President's Message



By Ron Hitchcock  
President

**N**ot much new this past month, lots of vacations going on. The Club is running smoothly. Membership's Wayne Crabb has vigorously amassed a number of energetic new members. Part of their initiation is to work on the grounds and the park looks great. Thanks to all of you.

We're looking forward to another Fall Meet, October 6, 7 and 8. Alex O'Donnell is chairing this year's gathering and we look forward to lots of steam participation.

The Board is still chewing on fund raising possibilities. The Ghost Train is still in consideration, but details have not been worked out satisfactorily so we're unable to conclude. Just letting you know we're still working on it with enthusiastic volunteer commitments. Will let you know if it comes together.

Two large commitments will be addressed before the end of the year; refurbishment of the caretaker's caboose (Gary Evans has already assembled new cabinets), and we're working with DWP coordinating a much-needed new electrical drop. Our video security system has new capacity and the PA is back in action.

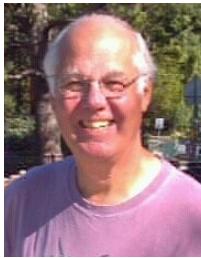
Thank you Miles Kristman, Greg McMurray and Thaine Morris. Ross Harper is working on refurbishing the water misters, which are wonderful on these hot Sunday run days. Ray Burden seems to be tinkering with (fixing) something almost any night you drop by. What can we say – thank you Ray..!

If equipment is broken, please use the orange service tags to identify the symptoms.

If guests are brought to the station during Sunday runs, please clear them with the Station Master. And finally, event sponsors please remain engaged with your event. Your guests are here to have fun and be safe. It requires your full commitment and participation.

See you at the Meet.

# From the Super



**H**ello Train-Fans! Let's give it up for our newly established sprinkler and landscaping crew: Steve Ruatta, Steve Rodstein, Ross Harper, Larry Tighe and Andrew Chavez!

They have showed up every Saturday, mapped out the sprinkler stations, fixed broken plumbing and even watered the lawns. Unfortunately, now that we can turn on the valves, they are discovering multiple areas that need repair. They are addressing them one at a time! We are hoping to start planting (and watering) fruit trees out on the West End in September. Thanks ever so much, guys!

Our wasp problem out on the West End appears to have been addressed by Jeremy, Christie and yours truly. It took several attempts, but I think we finally crushed them.

The nectarine tree in the Soibelman Garden grew so much fruit that the branches started breaking off. We harvested most of the fruit and placed it on the Kountry Kitchen counter for the membership to consume. Each batch was dispatched promptly. There is a new fruit picker in the tool shed. Feel free to pick whatever additional fruit you can find. Now we need to prune the tree for next year's crop. Do any of you know how to do that? Rumor has it that Mark Vreeken is bringing over a group of Girl Scouts to clean up the Soibelman Garden. Mark and Jeremy are taking charge of that project.

We need to address the collection of propane tanks next to the Phil West Barn work area. Please come pick up your tanks in the next 4 weeks or we will dispose of them ourselves. We don't want anyone to lose their tanks unnecessarily, but they have stayed there too long. Please encourage anyone you know who owns one of those tanks to come pick it up ASAP.

I sent out an email blast listing all the jobs needing to be done. The response was limited and the jobs remain. The heat and summer vacations have not helped.



## Flemming Kidnaps Tinker Bell!

by Carolyn Hoagland

**F**lemming Nielsen found Margaret Kerry (above) volunteering at Walt Disney's Barn on Sunday, August 6, and asked her if she had ever ridden on the trains. When she said no, he whisked her away to the New Sherwood Station and accompanied her on a train ride.

Upon their return he took her on a tour of the facility, which she had also never seen. Margaret, the original live reference model for Tinker Bell in the 1953 Disney feature film, *Peter Pan*, has often been to the east side of LALSRM to promote her book, "Tinker Bell Talks: Tales of a Pixie Dusted Life", and to help out at the Barn, whether as a docent, or chasing dust mice with a broom. She was delighted to be kidnapped, and promises to bring no charges against her captor, who is rumored to be a retired Disney Imagineer.

(Above photo by Carolyn Hoagland)

So that's the way it is. Remember our next work day is August 19. Come on out and work or play, because that is what we do! I'll see you at the rails. Your feedback is always appreciated.

Ted Merchant can be reached at [EdwardBMerchant@gmail.com](mailto:EdwardBMerchant@gmail.com).

## Jim Lesovsky Passes

We are sad to report the passing of E. James Lesovsky, our remaining Charter Member, on July 26. More details next month.

### 2017 Rosters Mailed

If you have paid your dues for 2017 and have not received your Roster, please contact Diana Manchester (626.222.7499; [dm.ad@verizon.net](mailto:dm.ad@verizon.net)) or Willbur Dong (see previous Roster for contact info).



The Kountry Kitchen needs volunteer cashiers on Sundays. A shift is 3 hours, from 11 am to 2 pm, and includes set-up, cashiering and take down. A free lunch is provided plus work credit.

It's a great way to catch up with Members, fun to work with Jaime, and a huge service to the Club.

If 4-6 members and/or their spouses will sign up, each volunteer would only need to serve once every 4-6 weeks. Please contact John Garcia, KK Manager.



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

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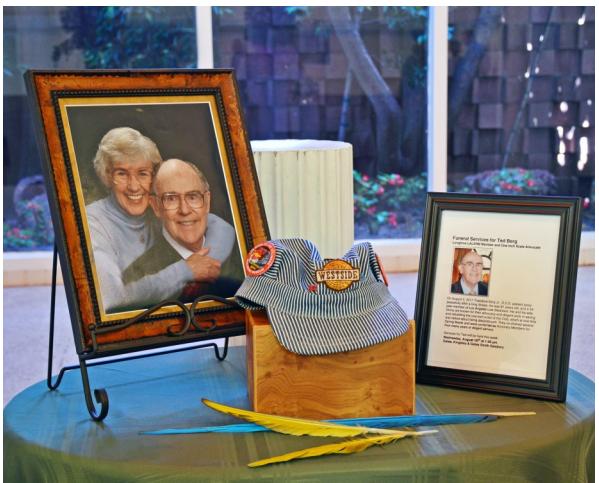
Editor — Peter Fuad  
Associate Editor—Diana Manchester  
The right is reserved to edit all copy.

# Ted Berg, 44-Year Member and Mentor, Passes

*(Continued from page 1)*

issues. One summer on a ramble to Burnaby Railroad in Vancouver Canada, Ted and Ginny kept us laughing with their serenades and great stories—like the time he spent his summers as a lumberjack before becoming a dentist,” remembers Pam.

“Ted was a willing teacher and a precise craftsman. He would provide one-on-one sessions on how to build switches and crossovers,” remembers John DeRosa.



Memorial display at Ted’s “Celebration of Life” on Wednesday, August 16.

Ted and Ginny co-chaired several Spring Meets and were voted as Honorary Members in 2003 for their many years of diligent and generous service.

## A popular UCLA professor and in demand as a forensics dentist

Theodore Berg was born on April 2, 1936 and grew up in Ohio, attending Cornell and Ohio State Universities. He interned at the VA Hospital in Westwood, L.A. and in the late 1960’s, joined

UCLA School of Dentistry as professor of prosthodontics. There he made a significant impact on the curriculum, mentored students, and published articles still in use today. His passions for imparting knowledge and integrity earned him an unprecedented 25 teaching awards from graduating classes.

He also taught forensic dentistry, and was often called upon for his expertise at crime scenes and as an expert witness in the courts. His many contrib-

utions to the field of dentistry earned him a lifetime achievement award in 2010.

Services were held Wednesday, August 16, at Gates, Kingsley & Gates Smith Salsbury in Culver City.

Los Angeles Live Steamers

ENGINE BOOSTER

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Here are two people, Ted and Ginny Berg, who put incredible hours in maintaining the one-inch trackage. They are working almost every Saturday and sometimes during the week and Sundays on the one inch part of the facility. Without them I doubt the one-inch track would still exist. They are very dedicated to the facility. *Editor*

▲ A snapshot from the May 2000 Booster of Ted and Ginny working on the one inch track. Photo and caption by Willie Wilhelm, who was the editor. Special thanks to Cary Stewart for finding this photo in his Boosters archive.



▲ J. Kent Inasy and his sweetheart, Vikki Rice were hosts of a successful 45th reunion for Westchester High School alumni. The event was held at our Club on Saturday, August 12 for about 100 guests. They enjoyed a catered lunch, and train rides by Mel Bresee, who shared stories from our Club's history as they traveled different sections of our extensive layout. Vikki pictured above with three of her friends

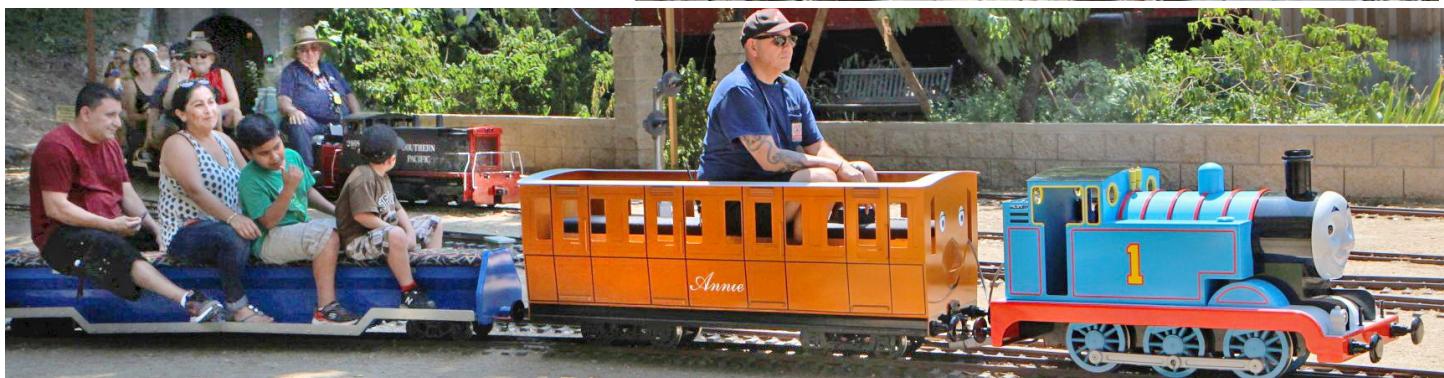


▲ Harrison Hitchcock at the annual Narrow Gauge Meet at Bittercreek Western Railroad the weekend of August 11-13. This is Ken Burns's 2-1/2 inch scale 2-8-0 consolidation, built after the Rio Grand Southern RGS 41. It's a scaled version of the engine at Knott's Berry Farm. (Photo by Marsh Creek)

# TTOS Run a Success

**T**TOS-SW members and their families celebrated summer and trains at their annual picnic at LALSRM on Saturday, August 5. The Run is hosted each year by Don Kallgren . About 200 guests attended. The Gauge One track was operating as well as the G-scale Garden Railroad.

Special thanks to engine owners, engineers and conductors and other members who generously volunteered their time: Gary Baker and his Thomas the Tank with John Garcia engineering; Christie Edinger and her Dingerbelle with Bear Mustoe conducting; and the Club SP #2468 with Francis Barnes and Darrell Payne; and Gary Evans, stationmaster. (Photos by Roger Hill)



6:00 PM – Potluck Dinner & Dessert

8:00 PM – Movie: Disney's original "Pollyanna"

Photo by Ray Burden

QUESTIONS? Call Martha at 626-232-7053

# The Famous Lindbergh Engine in 1:32 Scale

By Diana Manchester

Terry Spahr returned with an unexpected treasure after he and Bob Crone attended the "National Summer Steam Up" at the McClellan Air Force Base near Sacramento in July. This is an annual event where Gauge One live steamers gather to run their trains, catch up with one other, and check out the wares from railroad suppliers.

Terry had his heart set on a different locomotive, but Bob talked him into taking a look at Accucraft's new PRR #460. This engine has quite a romantic story in the history of steam. Also known as the "Lindbergh Engine", it was the winner in a spectacular race in 1927 between a steam locomotive and an airplane.

## Lindbergh's Famous Flight and the Race to Theaters

Col. Charles Lindbergh had just completed his well-publicized transatlantic flight and had been presented with the Distinguished Flying Cross by President Calvin Coolidge. The public was clamoring to see this filmed ceremony in the theater, television having not yet been invented. A contest was waged between two newsreel companies, both striving to be the first to have their film shown in New York City theaters. The plane and train, each carrying the raw footage, took off from Washington D.C. and sped to New York City. The train averaged 82.7 miles per hour and attained a maximum speed of 115 mph. The plane was the first to arrive in New York. However, the train won the contest to deliver the film to theaters, since it carried a fully-outfitted film processing and duplicating lab in its baggage car. (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IEYI0vk6Ik8>) The locomotive promptly became known as the "Lindbergh Engine."

The engine went back to its normal duties, hauling charters and passenger



Terry's PRR #460 locomotive-tender, and six-car consist, which was bought separately. It includes two passenger cars, a sleeper car, baggage car, dining car and an observation car. (All photos by Diana Manchester). Inset: Historic photo of the PRR #460 in Washington Union Station with its crew and officials.

trains between Washington and New York, and in its final decades pulled trainloads of passengers from Camden N.J. to the Jersey shores. It was retired in 1956.

## Only Surviving Locomotive of Its Kind

The E-6 class was the last 4-4-2 "Atlantic" type locomotive built by the Pennsylvania Railroad, manufactured between 1910 and 1914. Their 80" drivers allowed them to reach speeds as high as 120 mph. No. 460 is the only surviving locomotive of its class and was listed on the U.S. National Register of Historic Places in 1979. It has been fully restored at the Railroad Museum of Pennsylvania, Strasburg, where it is on display.

## Accucraft Crafts a Beloved Treasure

Accucraft just this year recreated this famous locomotive in brass and stainless steel in 1:32 scale. Terry went prepared

and got a great deal on the locomotive and the entire consist, which was sold separately. Terry was raised in Pennsylvania and has a soft spot in his heart for the PRR and the Reading Railroad. He already owns a 1:32 scale live steam butane-fired Chesapeake & Ohio H8 Alleghany 2-6-6-6. The Accucraft Lindbergh Engine is also butane-fired, and besides being pretty nice to look at, also provides more time on the track with less work. And boy, does it fly! A treasure any way you look at it.



▲ The top of the cab and tender are Tuscan Red. Terry gets ready to try out his new PRR #460 on our Gauge One track. The engine is butane-fired and easy to run.

◀ The boiler jacket is painted Brunswick Green, which is so dark a green that it often appears to be black ("a gallon of black with three drops of green").



# Who's been Working on the Railroad

**July**

Larry Tighe  
Oliver Tighe  
Steve Rodstein  
Steve Ruatta  
Ross Harper  
Doug Young  
Les Kovacs  
John DePhillip  
Charles Rhodes  
Steve Sauber  
Wayne Crabb

John Garcia  
Alex O'Donnell  
Mark Vreeken  
Christie Edinger  
Tim LaGaly  
Andrew LaGaly  
Gary Baker  
Ray Burden  
John Smith  
Ted Merchant

## LALSRM Logo Mugs by Creative Zest



Patrick, of Creative Zest was a vendor at our LALSRM Spring Meet this year, and has created a mug with our logo. It comes in two sizes (11 oz and 15 oz) with generously-sized handles. You can even have your name imprinted on the mug. Best of all, a portion of each sale is donated to the Museum. Makes a great gift.

Mug Style Options: Club logo on both sides or Club logo on one side and your name on the other.

Price: \$11.95 for 11 oz; \$13.95 for 15 oz.

No extra cost to customize with a name. Made to order. Usually ships in 24 to 48 hours. Visit: <http://www.creativezest.com/Los-Angeles-Live-Steamers-Mug-p/mg-lals.htm>

## SUNDAY EXTRA BOARD

Locos	Engineers	Conductors
City of LA—Fuad SP PA1—LALSRM Santa Fe Electric— LALSRM Heisler—Merchant ATSF 940—Bressee CSRR #73—Edinger	Francis Barnes Christie Edinger Peter Fuad Mel Bressee Paul Liu Jeremy Steinert Greg Pschaida	Bob Quinn Roberto Lopez Brenda Garcia Paul Liu Larry Tighe

## Ridership and Max Temps

July 2	842	85°
July 9	279	99°
July 16	857	88°
July 23	657	89°
July 30	688	86°

## Riders

July 2017 — 3,323  
Total 2017 — 18,331

## Member Schedule

### August

- 19 Work Day/ Member Meeting
- 20 Public Rides; Disney Barn Open/Steam Plant in operation
- 26 Potluck/ Night Run/Movie Night (see ad, page 5)
- 27 Public Rides

### September

- 3 Public Rides
- 4 **Labor Day**
- 10 Public Rides
- 11 BOD Meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 16 Work Day/Member Meeting
- 17 Public Rides; Disney Barn Open/Steam Plant in operation
- 23 Potluck/ Night Run/Live Steamers Movie night
- 24 Public Rides



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

**2017**

## Officers and Directors

**President** Ron Hitchcock

**Vice President** Peter Fuad

**Secretary** Alex O'Donnell

**Treasurer** Fred Lack

### Directors

Christie Edinger Peter Fuad

John Garcia Ron Hitchcock

Fred Lack Chuck Mohr

Alex O'Donnell John Smith



# Boy Scout Troop Camps Overnight; Cleans Pavilion



By Diana Manchester

**C**arson, Matt and Jordan from Scout Troop 682 got rides on Glen Manchester's train before dinner at their overnight camp-out at the Club on July 28-29. The Baldwin-Westinghouse switcher is one of six built by Lew Soibleman and

committee; the brown boxcar was once used on the TV show "Silver Spoons".

LALSRM members Peter Bowen and Mark Vreeken are their Scoutmasters, along with Jake Godown, and made a grilled tri-tip dinner with all the trimmings. The boys helped prepare the pineapple upside down cake.

Louis Mooney got out his speeder for them to run, and Jeremy Steinert fired up Club locomotive #8 for a night run.

The next morning the boys cleaned up Goudie Pavilion to "give back." This troop has helped the Club on various projects in the past.

## LALSRM FALL MEET FRI, SAT, SUN – OCT 6, 7, & 8

PUBLIC TRAINS WILL NOT RUN ON SUNDAY

THIS IS A PRIVATE EVENT – NOT OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Event Chair: Alex O'Donnell

**Friday Night Kickoff Potluck Dinner: 6:00 pm.** Bring a main dish, side dish, or dessert.

Kountry Kitchen meals – Lunch & Dinner Saturday & Sunday.

Continental Breakfast Saturday & Sunday.

President's Auction: Sunday 1:30 pm. Please start cleaning out your closets!

Steaming bays available for visiting railroaders. Overnight camping is available.

Vendor space available – contact Martha Figueroa.

More details to be announced soon.

**PLAN TO RUN**  **LET'S HAVE FUN**