



2018 Spring Meet a Success

Terry and His Tractor Off to Greener Pastures

By Diana Manchester

On Sunday, June 17, members reluctantly helped Terry Spahr load a small U-Haul trailer with his implements from the little red barn for his cross-country move to Hershey, PA. Les Kovacs at the controls of our Gradall crane, with John Valencia and Garibalde Figueroa guiding, carefully transferred Terry's 1,850 pound 1/3 scale steam tractor into his Ford F350 pickup. (See photo on page 5.)

He is truly heading to greener pastures, as the rolling hills of Pennsylvania lure him back to his childhood state. It has been about 50 years since he last lived in the farmland, but evidently you can't take the country out of the boy.

His beloved steam tractor and ice cream machine will have a starring role at the July 3rd and 4th opening of the Star Barn Village in Elizabethtown (<https://thestarbarn.com/>), cranking out 3,000 gallons of premier ice cream in six flavors. Already on display at the

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Triple Heading in Steam, Electric and Diesel at Spring Meet

By Diana Manchester

Live steam railroaders of all stripes and interests converged together at LALSRM the last weekend in May. Steam locomotives of various eras were seen on the main line as well as the smaller scales tracks and the elevated Gauge 1 layout. Diesels, gas-electrics and electrics were also abundantly represented, as well as engineers of all ages. A real treat to see and ride behind was the triple-header steam train on Saturday, with David Lazarus's Pennsy K-4 in the lead position. (See photo on page 5.)

There were many other enjoyable activities that weekend, including movie night featuring the recent "Murder on the Orient Express", Railroad BINGO, the President's Auction (netting well over \$1,700), and the Esquires Big Band on Saturday night. The food was plentiful from the BOD Spaghetti Dinner on Friday to the ribs and chicken dinner by Handy Market Saturday and Sunday, and the

breakfasts and lunches cooked by our own members and Jaime. Carolyn Hayes ran the Children's Crafts both days; vendors included Fisher Detail Foundry, Eccentric Engineer, RMI, Rail Rider and Sharilin's Accessories.

Brenda Garcia, our Spring Meet Host, and Co-Hosts Bill Walker and Larry Tighe, wish to thank those who helped plan and run the Meet, and everyone who volunteered during the weekend, from Gate, to Kitchen, to Disney Barn, Garden Scale RR, and Library, to track maintenance, signals, communications, tours, raffle donations and so much more.

We appreciate the many members who cleaned up the facility in the weeks prior to the event, and who repaired trains, structures, scenery, equipment and utility feeds so we could all have an enjoyable time. It was a massive effort, but things ran smoothly because of the many people who gave of their time, talent and effort.

Public Service

July

- 1 Public rides; Disney Barn open
- 8- Public rides
- 15 Public rides; Disney Barn open/
Steam Plant operating/Small
Scale Sunday
- 22 Public rides
- 29 Public rides

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD



By Christie Edinger, Secretary

The June 4th meeting came to order at 7:01pm. There were no new party requests so we began by finalizing the date of the 2018 Fall Meet which will be held September 15 and 16. Since September 16 falls on the 3rd Sunday the Board decided to not allow Disney Barn day due to safety issues and camping by guests in the barn area. It should also be noted that there will be no camping in the Smith Valley bowl due to the construction of Boney Island now underway for the Halloween season

Fred Lack, Club Treasurer reported that expenses consisting of insurance, administration, the electrical power panel, gondola rebuilding, utilities and Spring Meet costs resulted in a net loss for the month of May.

Increasing Phil West Barn Rental

Peter Fuad led a lengthy discussion on equipment storage, shed issues and raising the rates which have remained unchanged for 15 years. Those who work at least 40 hours during the fiscal year receive a 40% discount on shed rental. Another concern involving who should get priority of prime space on the first level of Phil West Barn sparked some lively discussion.

Last year the Board voted to raise the shed rental rates to \$15, \$13 and \$11 depending on track location, but the decision was rescinded and was to be revisited for the 2018 billing. The new cycle begins in July so letters will be going out this month. A show of hands was very sparse. Most don't want to raise the rates and very few want to do the work around here. The annual estimate of increased revenue to the Club would be approximately \$5,000.

The Board approved the increase to \$15, \$13, \$11 (currently \$10, \$9, \$8) per foot annually.

Alex O'Donnell will handle shed management for the small gauge which would be raised from \$6 to \$8.50 per foot annually. Tim will assist Jay on the shed rental process and help new bookkeeper Sara

Morris (see below) who will handle the payments. We need to do a sweep of the Phil West barn to inventory equipment. Clean up the place, (perhaps one level at a time). Get everything off the track other than locomotives and cars. Bill Schirmer advised that when the ASEPO party was held the Fire Marshall, who is a member of ASEPO, warned that we have a potential bomb with all the flammable items inside of storage areas.

Sara Morris is New Bookkeeper; New Check Writing Procedures

Sara Morris was formally introduced to the membership as our new bookkeeper. Sara will be replacing Tim LaGaly. Sara wants the Club to have tighter control over writing checks. We will implement check writing procedures and have purchase orders. When you have a large project, present it at the monthly Board meeting. During the month the advisory committee would review the project and make recommendations. Sara is developing a form with procedures to follow. Our current FCR form could be the basis for that.

New Probationary Member; New Application Form

New probationary members for this month were introduced by Wayne Crabb. Welcome to Frank McGinty from Montecito, Daniel Lai and Caroline Chang. Wayne made some copies of a new membership application form designed by Wilbur Dong.

Wayne wants everyone to look over the proposed form and possible fee and requirement increases, particularly for junior and non resident members. Peter suggested that Wayne and Diana put together a sample form for the membership to evaluate. Wayne also proposed doing away with the sliding scale for new members and charging a \$100 flat rate plus \$100 initiation regardless of when they join.

Peter mentioned the need of a new dryer for the pump on the air compressor. The current one is worn out and causes water in the lines. The \$3,000 cost is covered under plant maintenance. There presently is no low pressure cutoff switch so one will be added to the new dryer when it is installed to prevent this from happening again.

John Garcia is still working on the non-profit discount for the Wi-Fi which should

be retroactive when enacted. Upgrades to the website to include membership and shed rentals, ability to upload photos, etc. are still in the works and should be completed by the Fall Meet.

New Shed Rental Manager

Jay Hawver will take over as shed manager replacing Tim LaGaly. Jay will receive input from Michael Murphy who knows most of the members renting space. Alex O'Donnell will handle the 1st shed rentals and will work with Jay when notices are sent out.

Equipment from Ron Tarjany's estate will soon be removed by his executor, Rick Dinger. This should free up some track space. Also equipment abandoned by Kevin O'Neil is still awaiting disposition after numerous attempts to contact him.

Spring Meet Thanks and New Ideas

There was a lengthy report on the Spring Meet. Thanks to Brenda Garcia, Doug Young, Wayne Crabb, John Garcia, Bill Walker and Larry Tighe, and Nick Suncin plus many more who helped make the Meet possible. We realized a small profit in spite of expenses.

There was a long post-Meet discussion on better more efficient ways to do things. We could simplify menus and cut out expensive raffle prizes. There was a complaint that people bring too much junk to the president's auction. There was so much junk that took 3 hours to get through it all. Even so the auction netted \$1745 for the Club and kept the Meet from going into the red.

An issue of concern at the Meet was motor homes plugging into our power outlets to run air conditioners and appliances. Our circuits were not designed to be motor home hook-ups. To make matters worse people did this without even asking permission. Motor homes are designed to be self sufficient so should not need to do this. One person even ran an extension cord from the outer parking lot into the ticket booth. If any of you have any suggestions for improvements of future Meets please let us know by email if possible. Our contact info is in the roster.

Boney Island

The Boney Island project in Smith Valley is already underway. The builders, Rick and Rex and their families have already been working on their infrastructure such as installing electrical boxes and renovating the storage trailer to be used for an office. Improvements made on that structure will be left for us to use after the

(Continued on page 3)



From the SUPER



By
Ted
Merchant

Hello Train-Fans!

Summer is here and the living is easy! Mother Nature has been kind and the need for raking is minimal especially since our members and the Boy Scouts did such a fantastic job prior to the Spring Meet. The Club looks great!

Less Kovacs and the sprinkler team are

working together to install a pressure regulator at the West End. A group of us replaced ties leading into the Club car storage sheds. The “Adopt a Track” program is working well. The Gauge One crew is placing ballast. And the Signal Team has kept us electrically secure.

My unique experience for the month is being chased out of the West End by a Cooper’s Hawk, presumably trying to protect her nest. She flew right into my head! Don’t worry, both the hawk and I are well.

So now it is time to play trains! Bring out your equipment on Sundays and give someone a ride!

Once again, we thank the many members who have come out and helped on projects every day of the week. We do our best to name them in “Who’s Been Working on the Railroad”, but I’m sure we, regretfully, miss many of you. Please be sure to thank these people when you see them at the Club.

And that’s the way it is. Work hard, have fun and never lose your steam. Your feedback is always welcome.

EdwardBMerchant@gmail.com.

President’s Message



By Peter Fuad, President

Our Spring Meet is behind us, and it was a great one! Thanks to all who helped!

We have some new ideas for doing next Spring Meet’s Saturday night dinner. Maybe have a gourmet taco truck instead of having a catered dinner. Also, to save members’ efforts, maybe we don’t serve a hot breakfast—just coffee, donuts and rolls. Those who want a hot breakfast can sample nearby eateries. See more ideas that were discussed at our last Board meeting in this issue’s *Splinters*.

We continue forward with innovations for the Ghost Train runs in October. This year we will have new displays from a group called Boney Island. Their displays will be located in the West End picnic area, and will have separate tickets and entry.

Rather than sandblast the Moore-O’Brien Bridge, it may be possible to just power wash the structure. It appears just a later, second coat of paint job is peeling, which could be removed by washing along. The original coating seems intact. More to come.

SPLINTERS

(Continued from page 2)

event. Rick and Rex will be present at the July 2 Board meeting

New Small Scale Barn Proposed

Alex O’Donnell is proposing a project which is a rebuild of the existing small scale shed. It was built by the Boy Scouts about 10 years ago and though it has served us well it suffered from the elements. The shed is no longer large enough to house equipment. The proposed structure would be an expansion of the existing footprint with the addition of a second level. A lift is not needed as most small scale cars are light enough to be lifted. Alex is donating some building material left from some of his projects at his home. Work would be done by Alex O’Donnell and Jeff Edwards. Alex showed his drawings of the proposed structure which will resemble the Sacramento engine shops with.

Miles reported on Club owned cabooses which still need new trucks to prevent further mishaps. These cabooses currently have Mountain car trucks which are made with cast iron. When one of these derails the bolster snaps and the conductor ends up on the ground. He wants to purchase 4 Tom Bee truck sets at Train Mountain for \$1400. He can bring them

back saving freight costs. This expense goes under maintenance so no Board approval needed.

Dave Clark is still working on the Club’s Santa Fe electric locomotive. Parts have been ordered but there have been issues with the manufacturer, so delivery time was pushed up another month.

Bill Schirmer thanked our Club on behalf of ASEPO for the use of our facility for their annual barbecue and train rides. 150 people showed up and Bill presented the Club with a donation of \$600.

Wayne mentioned electrical safety issues on the west end involving extension cords and asked about the possibility of running conduit to some of the displays.

Meet our Newest Probationary Members



Caroline Chang



Daniel Lai



Frank McGinty

62ND ANNUAL SPRING MEET 2018



DIANA MANCHESTER



DIANA MANCHESTER



DIANA MANCHESTER



FRANK O'DONNELL



FRANK O'DONNELL



FRANK O'DONNELL



FRANK O'DONNELL



FRANK O'DONNELL



DIANA MANCHESTER



DIANA MANCHESTER



David Lazarus's Pennsy K-4 in the lead position on a triple-header train in steam on Saturday at the Spring Meet (Carol McKnight photo)

Terry and His Tractor Plow Ahead

(Continued from page 1)
 Star Barn Museum are his own scratch-built wood models of the Village structures. The Star Barn Village is a premier event location in central PA with an organic working farm, lake, orchard, a huge refurbished Gothic Revival barn from 1877, and other restored farm estate structures. He has bought a new home in the area, and will be working at the Village regularly. Thanks, Terry for the many years of your friendship and service to our Club. And for the many gallons of Steam Cream Ice Cream that brought a taste of the country to the appreciative members and guests of LALS. You will be greatly missed.



Les carefully lifts Terry's tractor with the Club crane



New Interactive Exhibit in Garden Railroad

A new interactive feature has been designed and built by Don Kallgren in our Garden-scale railroad for our young visitors. By pushing a button near the fence, children can operate a train inside the fence on a ground circle of track. The Winnie the Pooh barrel with its upper track was constructed by Ross Harper and added to Don's feature. It will also be able to be run interactively by a second button. (Diana Manchester Photo)

Who's been Working on the Railroad

Aaron Emmer	Jeremy Steinert
Alex O'Donnell	Jim Baker
Andrew Chavez	John Garcia
Bill Schirmer	Joseph Clow
Bill Walker	Stevy Brock
Brenda Garcia	Larry Tighe
Brian Webster	Mark Vreeken
Charles Rhoades	Les Kovacs
Christie Edinger	Luke McGinnis
Christopher Sue	Matt McGinnis
Colin Campbell	Mel Bresee
Diana Manchester	Miles Kristman
Don Donaldson	Ray Burden
Don Kallgren	Roderick Fritz
Doug Young	Ron Nelson
Frances Barnes	Ross Harper
Gary Swanson	Steve Rodstein
Glen Manchester	Ted Merchant
Jack Streit	Wayne Crabb
Jay Hawver	



Working on Museum's UP

David Holman installing the battery connector between the Union Pacific locomotive and the slug for power. Next the Amphenol connector for control gets installed. Photo by Zak Holman.

SUNDAY EXTRA BOARD

May

Engineers and Conductors		Ridership	
Francis Barnes	Mel Breese	May 6	599
Tom Harwood	Bear Mustoe	May 13	44
Greg Pschaida	Christie Edinger	May 20	789
Fred Lack	Peter Fuad	May 28	Spring Meet
Don Donaldson	Joseph Clow	May 2018 — 1,432 Total 2018 — 13,197 Total 2017 — 12,364	
Bob Quinn	Seamus Walsh		
Darell Payne	Wayne Crabb		

Souvenirs and Tickets - Brenda Garcia, George Becker

Station Masters - Wayne Crabb, John Garcia, Bill Walker, Greg Pschaida, Tom Crue, Larry Mitchell

Safety Coordinators - Doug Young, Michael Murphy, Wayne Crabb



Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum

In Griffith Park
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 Phone (323) 661-8958

2018 Officers and Directors

President	Peter Fuad
Vice President	Doug Young
Secretary	Christie Edinger
Treasurer	Fred Lack
Directors	
Wayne Crabb	Christie Edinger
John Garcia	Peter Fuad
Andrew LaGaly	Fred Lack
Diana Manchester	Doug Young

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 (213) 247-0776 to reserve your spot in the class. You must have passed the Level 1 Conductor class.



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 Editor Peter Fuad
 Associate Editors: Diana Manchester, Christie Edinger, Alex O'Donnell

Member Schedule

June

30 2017-18 Shed lease year ends

July

- 1 2018-2018 Full Shed Year Begins
- 1 Public rides; Disney Barn open
- 2 BOD meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 7 Change directions
- 8- Public rides
- 14 Work day/member general meeting
- 15 Public rides; Disney Barn open/Steam Plant operating/Small Scale Sunday
- 21 Pot luck/night run/Live Steamers movie night
- 22 Public rides
- 29 Public rides