



Ghost Train Dates Creeping Up

The 2018 Ghost Train will arrive at the station Saturday evening, October 13 and run for 10 weekend nights. Our gates will be open from 7 to 10 pm on the following nights:

- Saturday & Sunday, Oct 13/14
- Friday, Saturday & Sun. Oct 19/20/21
- Friday, Saturday & Sun. Oct 26/ 27/28
- Tuesday & Wednesday, Oct 30/31

TRAILERS: On Monday, August 6, very early in the morning, we will be moving the Halloween trailers to the Club parking lots. All other vehicles and trailers must be removed from EVERY Club parking lot, driveway and Crystal Springs Drive no later than Saturday, August 4.

Our Boney Island friends have been cleaning up the meadow in our West end (the "Bowl") in preparation for their family-friendly Halloween event.

Our Ghost Train Facebook page will be posting announcements and details at www.facebook.com/laghosttrain, and we will be sharing more at our August BOD meeting on August 6.

Public Service

July

29 Public rides

August

5 Public rides; Disney Barn open

12 Public rides

19 Public rides; Disney Barn open

26 Public rides

Ted's Heisler Locomotive a Sensation at This Year's Train Mountain Triennial

By Christie Edinger

There's a reason LALS was short of trains and crews the Sundays of June 24 and July 1. They were congregated with enthusiasts from all over the world at Train Mountain! I kept a list and during the week counted 36 LALS members, which is likely a record for us at any meet. Train Mountain Railroad reported all time record attendance for the 2018 Triennial.

I was conductor for Heisler #5, run by engineer extraordinaire **Ray Burden** and owned by Ted Merchant. The 60' all narrow gauge consist included locomotive, tender, tank car, propane car, tool car, two bench type riding cars and a caboose.

After an all-night drive we arrived Tuesday, June 30 at Crisp Yard, it took a while to get all the equipment organized and moved to our assigned track at Klamath & Western.

On Wednesday we were joined by **Ted and Betsy Merchant**, owners of Heisler #5, along with Greg Pschaida and his friend Dave Twedt. We all headed out to Hope Circle, the farthest point by rail on the layout. Along the way we stopped at Crane for water where Ray discovered that the yellow water tank was not a prop (yes, it really works) and in the warm dry sun he dried off quickly.

Wherever the Heisler appeared there were fans with cameras and phones, getting videos of the "beast" as the Indiana folks called it. The distinct whistle alerted all to its presence.

On Friday we were taking a leisurely ride down the Serpentine when we were waved down by some other LALS members who were in trouble. **Derek Schipper, Harrison Hitchcock, Jeremy Steinert** and

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SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

By Christie Edinger, Secretary



The July 2 meeting was called to order with 34 members and 7 board members present. Your secretary was still at Train Mountain. Thanks to John Garcia for filling in on my duties.

John read a party request from Jon Newbill for Monday September 3 at 5pm. He will be hosting about 50 people in the Disney picnic area and giving them rides with his personal locomotive.

Treasurer: We had a small positive income for June according to Treasurer Fred Lack and remain in the plus column for the year. New bookkeeper Sara Morris is working on the transition with Tim LaGaly. In the near future she would like to have some kind of spreadsheet showing revenue sources and how it is spent, maybe something like a pie chart would work. We also want to begin the purchase order system.

Membership: Wayne Crabb congratulated Seamus Walsh and Joseph Clow on completing their probation, He introduced new probationary member, Matthew Yoder-Hall who is a high school student in Studio City. Matthew is a lifelong rail fan and is trying to balance trains with other interests, including taking flying lessons.

Facilities: General Superintendent Ted Merchant reported on recent water leaks and sends thanks to Les Kovacs, Jim Baker and Tom Lang who repaired them while many of us were playing at Train Mountain. Ted has three new projects for the Board to entertain: (1.) Rick Gross suggested a depression beneath the Gauge 1 track at the East end, with retaining walls on either side for access to the inner area of the layout; (2.) Repair/replace fence at the East entrance which now provides little security. Anyone can easily climb over it as it's already halfway down; (3.) A type of drawbridge at the West end of the Gauge 1 layout so people can get to the office without banging their head or twisting extremities. They would like the open-

ing big enough to allow the Bobcat to get through. Ted wants input from Gauge 1 people. On another issue, Nick Suncin reported that we're still waiting on parts to repair the pump dryer.

Safety: Jim Cammarata reported on the recall notice for the AED. The problem is a resistor; if you push the button it may not work though it appears operational for now. Safety Coordinator must be on the property in radio contact during public runs. The Station Master must find a replacement before he or she goes to lunch. There was discussion on problems in the Station concerning height issues with young passengers. In some cases we are not checking and in other cases parents are being deceptive. We will have additional measuring signs at ticket window area and loading area. There was also discussion on maximum number of adults per car, three or four? It depends on the size of the adults and children. Use your own judgment and the engineer has the final say

Daytrippers bus seniors tour from San Diego has been in communications with us concerning a visit on a Disney Barn Sunday. They have changed dates and times several times and at first wanted to incorporate train rides with the trip. They have since decided to make that optional as some may not be able to sit on the bench cars. They have also been communicating with Larry Boone of Carolwood to arrange a time that is tentatively set for November 18.

Ghost Train: Gary Baker updated progress on the Ghost Train fundraiser. He introduced Rex who is a partner in the Boney Island operation that will occupy the West End Bowl during the Halloween season. They will meet with the Ghost Train committee on Saturday July 7. Boney Island, which was originally a yard haunt, is a kid friendly attraction and has a great following on social media. They were forced to shut down the operation in their neighborhood last year due to complaints from a neighbor.

Miles Kristman returned from Train Mountain with four sets of new trucks for our Club cabooses. He will now begin installing them.

Since Titan Trains was not present at Train Mountain we have decided not to

pursue purchasing a new Club locomotive from them. There have been numerous issues with their products. The search continues.

There are heat issues with the Kitchen container and we need to move ahead ASAP with insulation and air conditioning.

Peter reminded all that the steaming bays are not for storage of personal equipment. Also we need to remove flammable items from all storage sheds. An email blast will be sent out concerning this issue.

Issues with out-of-gauge track are being worked on. The signal at the Disney Barn crossing has been changed to activate sooner when trains are moving in counter-clockwise direction. Also, please give public trains priority when running in the Phil West area and by the Station.

Aaron Emmer has wired a feature into the signal system so that scenery lights on the track displays and bridges will come on when the signals are activated. Please don't unplug any of the scenery features.

Train Mountain

(Continued from page 1)

one other were on that train. We coupled the Heisler to the back of the crippled train and were able to push the entire consist back to the turntable at Central Station.

Saturday was the Big Toot creating a deafening audio level, followed by the Parade of Trains. Again rail fans came out of the woodwork to get shots of the Heisler!

Sunday we spent most of the day with Aaron Bentsen of *7Idea Productions* (Triennial videographer), Tom Watson, Train Mountain Board Member and one other photographer. Tom rode on the train while Aaron and the other gentleman scurried from place to place setting up for the next shots of the train.

During the week we heard the familiar voices of **Lisa Lipton**, **Charles Rhoades** and **Jeremy Steinert** coming from the tower, central command dispatch for routing trains during meets.

It was a memorable week for everyone. Ray dedicated this trip to the late John Huizenga, builder of the Heisler who attempted to bring it to Train Mountain, but never made it due to mechanical issues. If John was watching from above he must have been extremely proud of his magnificent locomotive.



From the SUPER



By
Ted
Merchant

Hello Train-Fans!

Man! It's HOT! But the same volunteers keep coming out and keeping the place in order. Once again Steve Rodstein and Ross Harper deserve credit for fixing three major leaks that shut down boiler water and the Disney Barn area. The repairs required extensive trenching, root removal, working under a sidewalk and removing an old concrete fence footing. I watched these guys over two weeks. I estimate they put in at least 30 man-hours of work. All this was expedited, recognizing our need to pull the public and open the Disney Barn while the thermometer in my (air conditioned) car read in the 100's!

Bill Schirmer is another member that has distinguished himself through hard

work. I have seen him out working almost every Saturday. One day he raked leaves, then fixed the 7 ½ inch track leading to the circular steaming bays, then helped us repair the ladder tracks leading into the Breesee Barn, all without being asked! Then he shows up the next Sunday and helps serve lunch! I give Bill the "Inspirational Worker of the Month Award"! Thanks Bill!

Our new members are out in force. I have twice seen Matt Yoder-Hall, a probationary junior member, sweeping and bagging leaves in the mid-week. GO MATT!

I can't mention everyone who has worked hard this last month, but we sincerely thank you all.

Rock's Tree and Hillside Service was called when a large limb, thirty feet above the tracks north of the Phil West Barn, broke and drooped to the ground. I have noted dozens of trees that have been stressed by the heat. I anticipate we will be calling back a trimming service in November to address all the dead wood. There appear to be a couple dead birch trees next to the parking lot. You can expect them to be removed in the next months.

The hot weather appears to have caused increased leaf dropping, so any of you that want to grab a rake are encouraged to do so.

And that's the way it is. Work hard, have fun and don't re-cut your chips! Your feedback is always welcome.

EdwardBMerchant@gmail.com.

President's Message

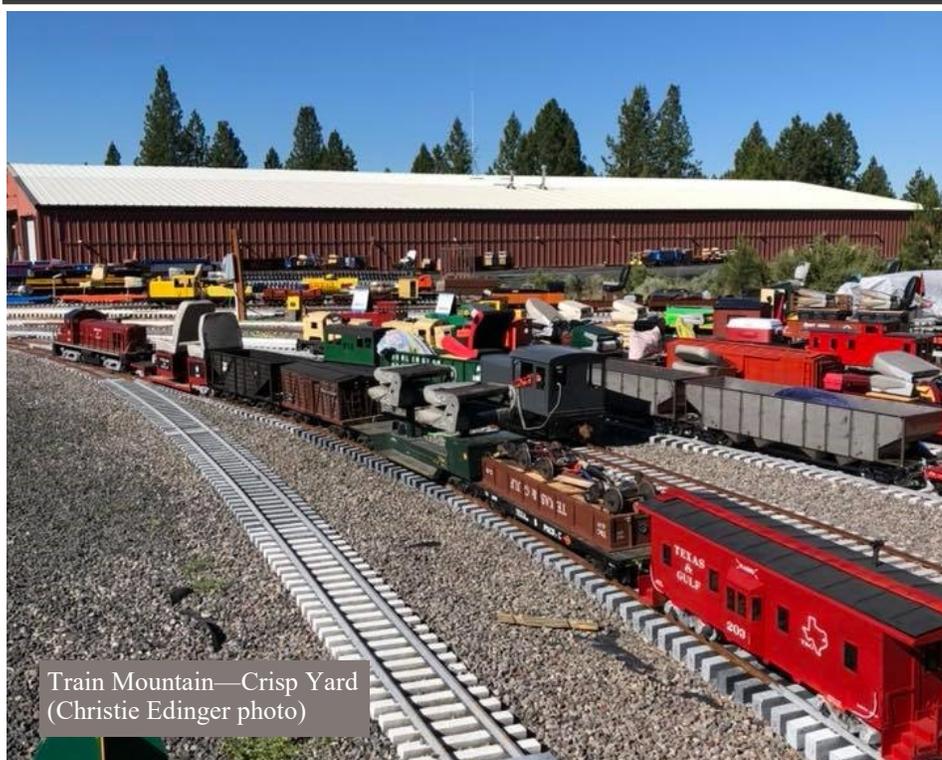


By Peter Fuad, President

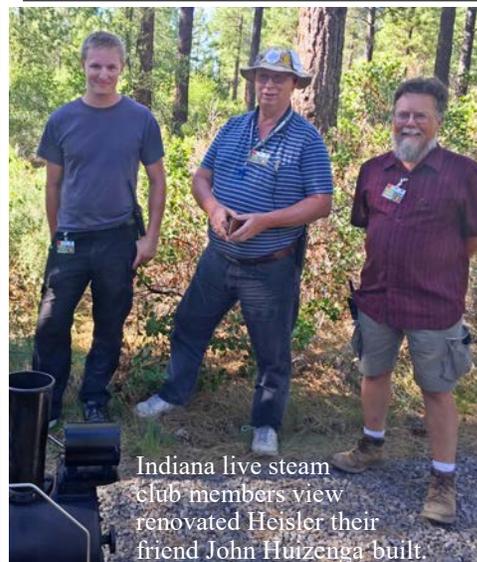
Much fun for many members at Train Mountain. Doug Young, John DePhillip, Les Kovacs and others took the Coast Starlight to Klamath Falls. 22 hours! They liked the train ride (they were in coach) and the scenery but admitted they should have stayed longer than one day at Train Mountain!

At the July General Meeting, Boney Island principals Rick Polizzi and Rex Danyluk introduced themselves to members. They have joined the Club. Their displays will be an exciting addition to the Ghost Train.

Our new FCR review committee is working. For example, Alex O'Donnell proposed a new 1" barn. His plans were submitted to the committee, and Les Kovacs made a number of constructive suggestions to Alex that will result in a better constructed project built for a reasonable price with hopefully fewer surprises.



Train Mountain—Crisp Yard
(Christie Edinger photo)



Indiana live steam club members view renovated Heisler their friend John Huizenga built.

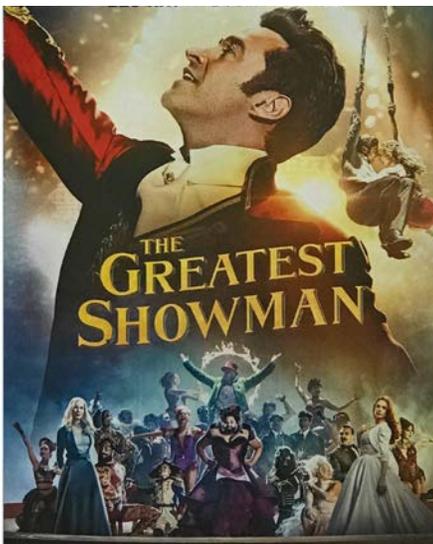
Who's been Working on the Railroad

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

Movie Night / Potluck/ Night Run – July 28

Potluck begins at 6:00 pm.

"Greatest Showman" starring Hugh Jackman, Zac Efron and Zendaya starts at dusk. This award-winning, original film/musical is inspired by the story of P. T. Barnum's creation of the Barnum & Bailey Circus and the lives of its star attractions. It celebrates the birth of show business and tells of a visionary who rose from nothing to create a spectacle that became a worldwide sensation.



SUNDAY EXTRA BOARD

June

Engineers and Conductors

Francis Barnes	Paul Liu
Mel Breese	Bear Mustoe
Joseph Clow	Darell Payne
Christie Edinger	Bob Quinn
Roderick Fritz	Steve Rodstein
Peter Fuad	Jeremy Steinert
Jeff Groseth	Greg Pschaida
Tom Harwood	Seamus Walsh
Carolyn Hoagland	Bill Walter
Scott Hoagland	Mark Vreeken

Souvenirs and Tickets

George Becker, Brenda Garcia,
Larry Tighe, Oliver Tighe

Safety Coordinators

Andy Blake, Tiffany Cammarata,
Jim Cammarata, Andrew Chaves,
Ron Hitchcock, Mike Murphy

Station Masters

Andy Blake, Wayne Crabb,
Tom Crue, Don Donaldson,
John Garcia, Glen Manchester,
Matt McGinnis, Greg Pschaida

Ridership

June 3	586	June 17	839
June 10	667	June 24	670
June 2018 — 2,762		Total 2018 — 15,959	
Total 2017 — 15,008			

Los Angeles Live Steamers Railroad Museum

In Griffith Park
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Toluca Lake, CA 91610
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



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

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

Member Schedule

July

- 28 Pot luck/night run/movie night
- 29 Public rides

August

- 4 TTOS Run
- 5 Public rides; Disney Barn open
- 6 BOD meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 12 Public rides
- 15 Park Employees Appreciation Steak Lunch/Train Rides
- 18 Work day/member general meeting
- 19 Public rides; Disney Barn open/Steam Plant operating/Small Scale Sunday
- 25 Pot luck/night run/movie night
- 26 Public rides

REMINDER Members cannot use Club equipment for private parties, without Board approval.

People and Projects Around the Museum

Fire Crews Get Tour of Our Layout

Left: Three LA County firefighting air crews got an unexpected and fun tour of our facility on Monday, July 23. Based out of Malibu, these three units were staged in our Members' parking lot on that hot afternoon, awaiting deployment to California wildfires. Miles Kristman and his wife came by and saw them waiting near our fence, and asked them if they'd like to come inside. They were glad for the invitation. Alex O'Donnell was onsite and gave them a walking tour of our layout, which they enjoyed very much. It was decided not to go for a train ride, so they could leave quickly if needed. We asked them for a photo and they were happy to oblige. Thank you, men, for your service. *Photo by Alex O'Donnell*



Left and bottom left: Oliver Tighe with a trainload of soil amendment enroute to our Club's "orchard" on the West end, where he and dad Larry worked it into the beds around the tree roots.



Right and right inset: Wayne Crabb and Daniel Lai find the cause of the false red in the block; some wires needed to be rebolted so they no longer touch the rail and short out.



Right bottom and inset: Ross Harper digs into a sprinkler leak; he and Steve Rodstein put in many hours repairing the large water leaks at the small tractor barn and behind the baggage car (pictured).



Gauge 1 collections showcase many eras & railroads



Gary White and his Gauge 1 Daylight consist.



Bob Crone's C-25 D&RGW narrow gauge.



Above: Don Donaldson's battery-powered Rio Grande consist, which includes a Grizzly Flats combine and WP&YR baggage car.



Center: The Gauge 1 layout received a generous donation of ballast from A-1 Grit Co., arranged by Don Donaldson. Brian Webster affixed the new ballast on two 40' lengths of track on the north side. We hope to get more for the south side.



1/19th scale Decauville 0-4-OT live steam locomotive.

Congratulations and Welcome



Congratulations, new members Joe Clow & Seamus Walsh for finishing their probationary hours. Welcome aboard, Matthew Yoder-Hall.



Wayne Crabb brings us up to speed on safety procedures and protocols in the station and for operating trains.