



Call for Engineers & Conductors

Ghost Train is moving spiritedly ahead. A few structures have made an appearance on the grounds, including Castle Frankenstein and the Witches House. On Saturday, August 25, we will need some volunteer help unloading the green trailer in the Sutchville parking lot, as well as clearing dead leaves and pine needles from a few areas where more structures will be set up.

During the Fall Meet weekend, the Ghost Train crew will limit their installation activities that interfere with track

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Fall Meet Just Around the Corner

By Alex O'Donnell

Attention members and live steamists – we will be having our Fall Meet once again Friday through Sunday, September 14, 15, and 16. Bring out your trains in 7-1/2", 4-3/4", 3-1/2" gauges as well as Gauge-1 and celebrate our heritage as a live steam club in Southern California for over 60 years.

Since bringing back our Fall Meets in 2015, they have been a resounding success with attendance increasing year by year. Based on feedback from last year's Meet, the dates of this year's Meet have been moved back to the third weekend of September in order to improve the meet experience as well as minimize interference with Halloween.

Camping will be limited to the East End meadow areas and will be on a first-come-first-

served basis. Dinner can be purchased at the Kountry Kitchen, while snacks will be offered for breakfast and lunch. We will host a President's Auction on Saturday at 1:00 pm, so bring out your railroad-related items for donation. We will need volunteers for kitchen/gate duty. We could also use more help with cleaning up dead plant material before the Meet. For more information, please contact Alex O'Donnell.



Public Service

August

26 Public rides

September

2 Public rides

9 Public rides; Disney Barn open

16 **Fall Meet** *No public rides*

23, 30 Public rides

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD



By Christie Edinger, Secretary

August 2018 Board Meeting

The August BOD meeting came to order at 7 pm Monday, August 6th. All eight board members were present along with 27 members and guest Larry Pearson from TTOS.

Parties: A party request was approved for Andrew Chaves for Saturday, September 8th. This is a thank you party for the volunteers at Theodore Payne Foundation. There will be 55 guests who will enjoy healthy food and train rides provided by Dinger Belle.

The Treasurer's report showed a net loss for the month of July due mostly to maintenance of Club equipment and kitchen expenses.

New Probationary Members: Wayne Crabb introduced two new probationary members, Sean Bannon who has been coming for train rides weekly with his son, and Rex Danyluk, one of the Boney Island team. Sean is sponsored by Scott and Carolyn Hoagland, and Rex is sponsored by Gary Baker and Christie Edinger. See their photos below.

We are now making a point to list sponsors of new members. Due to a recent

event we are looking into policies and procedures regarding new members. Junior members may not be on property unless they are accompanied by a parent, legal guardian or sponsor. Prospective new members will need to seek out sponsors among the membership.

Park Employees Steak Luncheon: John Garcia asked for five volunteers to help with the annual Park Employees Appreciation lunch to be held August 15th. Dinger Belle will be available for train rides though most just come for the steaks! Agencies invited were Recreation and Parks Maintenance (across Zoo Drive), Park Rangers, Boys' Camp, Travel Town and Fire Station 56.

Changing Gate Code: Diana mentioned the need to change the gate code since so many non-members seem to have it. Jeremy will be looking into a key card system. Stay tuned.

Janitorial Services: We discussed the issue of an improved janitorial service. We need to be more robust about cleaning restrooms and showers, and do it more frequently. We will require daily service during Ghost Train and Meets.

New Station Benches: The New Sherwood Station will be getting new benches and they will be in place prior to Ghost Train. New benches will be eight feet long and match the furniture in Goudie Pavilion (Kountry Kitchen).

Shed Inventory: Although Jay Hawver, new shed manager, was not present at the meeting, Wayne Crabb an-

nounced there will be an inventory made of all sheds. Sheds are intended for only for railroad equipment such as locomotives and rolling stock. All hazardous materials must be moved out of the sheds by October 1st. The Board will make the decision on removal of unauthorized items. An email blast will be sent out to notify members.

New Engineers Test: Michael Murphy is developing a new Level 1 Engineer's test. Guidelines were reiterated for engineers and conductors: for public rides do not bring a train into the Station until you have checked air hoses and brakes, and have a conductor; keep dwell time in the Station to a minimum; engineers should not leave engines except for a toilet break, and should lock their engine while away from it.

Boney Island Agreement: Peter reported we now have a written agreement for the Boney Island event. LALS will receive 10% of the admission charge. Boney Island will be open more nights and longer hours than Ghost Train. They will pay for their own power usage, and will remove all displays and equipment within 30 days after the event.

Ghost Train: Gary reported on Ghost Train progress. The announcement about Ghost Train and Boney Island was made at the recent Midsummer Scream in Long Beach, which hosted 20,000 people over two days. A color ad was projected on two enormous screens, and attendees were wildly enthusiastic about Boney Island returning at LA Live Steamers along with Ghost Train.

Diana has designed new rack cards that are available at the Ticket Booth on Sunday for distribution. Members are also encouraged to distribute them. The castle façade that is now sitting just northeast of the Kitchen commemorates the 200th anniversary of Mary Shelley's novel, "Frankenstein". The crew will construct much of the Frankenstein laboratory there as well. The two 40' trailers have now been moved into place for unloading. We will schedule an additional work day for August 25 to unload most of the props. We anticipate getting most of the debris such as leaves and pine needles removed on our regular work day August 18.

There is now a list in the kitchen for sponsoring dinners for Ghost Train. The limit has been raised to \$350 per night for food costs. We feed 55 people on 10 nights. For those working on Ghost Train setup there is a tally sheet on the refrigera-

Meet our Newest Probationary Members



New Probationary Members are Sean Bannon (*left*) and Rex Danyluk (*right*).

Sean is sponsored by his friends, Carolyn and Scott Hoagland.

Rex is a principal of Boney Island, and sponsored by Gary Baker and Christie Edinger.

Diana Manchester photos

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From the SUPER



By
Ted
Merchant

Hello Train-Fans!

Perhaps you have noticed three new, 10-foot-long, extra wide, flat cars available for clearing rights-of-ways and Halloween prep. (see below).

They arrived just in time since we have considerable clearing and prep to do. The eventual plan is to fabricate three huge canvas hampers that can be suspended from the uprights and used to carry leaves and pine needles to the dump site. I want to recognize a generous donation by Swaner Hardwood of Burbank. They contributed over \$600 worth of custom-milled maple for the uprights. Thank you, Swaners: we are grateful for your generosity.

The Fall Meet is happening in four weeks without a third-Saturday work day scheduled between now and then. There is considerable need for leaf clean-up through the tunnels out to the West End. None of this area is covered by our adopt-a-track program so the job must be done by volunteers. I know, it's hot and dry out there, but that is the best weather for this kind of

work. Please make an extra effort to clean up your "adopted" track. This is a great opportunity for Probationary Members to meaningfully register your work hours. Members of the Board and I are happy to sign your work cards any time. Feel free to use the Super Sucker, the new flat cars, the blowers, whatever you need to get this job done. Just drink plenty of water, appreciate the results of your labors and accept my thanks in advance.

Our irrigation crew announced: too many people are "adjusting" the sprinkler system. Please feel free to water any areas you feel are dry, but do so by hand without changing the sprinkler valves.

The water pressure regulator at the main valve has failed, consequently we are experiencing multiple plumbing failures. Hopefully we will have this problem fixed by the time you read this article.

Lastly, we are having a "Ghost Train Work Day" Saturday, August 25, starting at 10 am. We need to empty the green trailer, clear landscape and install scenery. Any extra workers can, you guessed it, rake leaves and pine needles. Lunch will be served.

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, missed 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 I'll see you at the rails. Your feedback is always welcome.

EdwardBMerchant@gmail.com

▼ New flat cars described above..



President's Message



By Peter Fuad, President

Summer is ending way too quickly! It's been a scorcher. Climate scientists tell us this heat is *not* the new normal— it's going to get worse.

Your Club is making progress on a number of fronts:

Ghost Train and Boney Island.

The Ghost Train Committee has been meeting regularly to discuss details of the event. Much time has been spent on online ticketing operations, which we are expanding this year. With more and more social media talking about the Ghost Train, our events should be busier than ever. Having regular committee meetings has helped your Club approach issues in an organized manner with input from all affected people.

Fall Meet plans continue under Alex's leadership.

Damage to Plantings: The record-breaking heat has damaged many of our trees and scrubs. We will be looking into pruning dead branches or removing entire plants if they are dead or beyond saving. I notice the native oaks survived the heat best.

TTOS-SW 2018 Picnic is Big Success

Toy Train Operating Society-SW members and their families celebrated summer and trains at their annual picnic at LALSRM on Saturday, August 4. The Run is hosted each year by Don Kallgren and Steve Waller. About 400 guests attended and even though it was very hot, everyone had a good time. The garden-scale railroad was operating as well as the 7-1/2" rails.



Left: Public trains at the junction at British Columbia Society of Model Engineers in Burnaby, just west of Vancouver.

Above: Walk-in roundhouse at Vancouver Island Model Engineers

Summer Visit to Live Steam Clubs in British Columbia

By Alex O'Donnell

Last month while visiting family in Canada, I had the privilege to visit a few model engineering societies in the province of British Columbia. My first stop was at the Vancouver Island Model Engineers located in Saanichton hosted by Phil Senkler. VIME has a walk-in roundhouse capable of storing several dozen engines as well as several full-size meeting cars much like ours. Their 7-1/2" gauge layout is roughly the same length as ours, but follows a very interesting series of loops through forests, ponds, and gullies. They also have a logging division which runs very steep grades and sharp curves suited for Shays and other geared locomotives. In addition to all this, they have a tri-gauge 4-3/4", 3-1/2", and 5" gauge highline elevated loop – I guess I should've brought my tiny boxcab in carry-on (ha!).

Situated on the grounds of the Saanichton Heritage Acres, the area also hosts a large collection of vintage farm equipment, stationary steam engines, full size traction engines, and a 12-inch gauge trolley collection. Afterwards, we drove back down to Victoria and



visited the old Canadian Pacific roundhouse slated for preservation. While visiting the remote Saltspring Island, I had the opportunity to visit a spectacular private outdoor OO-gauge layout located in the countryside (left).

My next stop was at the British Columbia Society of Model Engineers located in Burnaby just east of Vancouver. Also known as the Burnaby Central Railway, the layout has two separate loops which are operated independently and intersect at a few junctions. I managed to time my visit to one of their public run-days, and was impressed by the amount of crowds and birthday parties in attendance. They operate public trains on the two separate loops in opposite directions, and amazingly, coordinate with each other using

only radios and no signaling. Additionally, public trains with less than three cars do not have any conductors, but only engineers. One of their main electric public engines, Portland & Western 3801, was the twin basis for our Santa Fe electric locomotive.

In addition to their public operations, Burnaby boasts a full machine shop for overhauling live steam engines and a 1/2 scale Case traction engine which is fired up occasionally. Their 7-1/2" gauge layout is impressive with plenty of bridges, tunnels, and complex junctions. Their tri-gauge highline is still under construction, but follows a very scenic route cut deep into the forest.

Overall, I was very impressed with both Canadian tracks and hope to make a trip back up there with equipment in the next year or two.



Above: Guests wait for rides in the BCSME train station in Burnaby on a public run day
Left: Engines being overhauled in the BCSME machine shop

Club Thanks Park Staff with Steak Lunch

By Diana Manchester

John Garcia did an outstanding job producing our annual Steak Luncheon for the Park Employees this Wednesday, August 15. Everyone that attended was very happy with their delicious lunch, and had a relaxing time hanging out with colleagues and riding trains.

City Park departments who were invited include: Recreation and Parks Maintenance, Park Rangers, Boys' Camp, Travel Town and Fire Station 56. These employees do so much to make Griffith Park safe, accessible, functioning and fun for our Club and the many guests who visit the Park. Les Kovacs, who has long-time relationships with many of the key personnel, designed the invitations, and Christie printed them out and personally delivered them to all the departments.

We had a generous turnout of members to volunteer. See box below at right

Martha Figueroa made a huge pan of her famous macaroni salad. The menu included grilled steaks, chips, salsa, macaroni and potato salad, green salad, rolls and watermelon.

Christie and Mel provided train rides with their engines. Conductors were Ryan Hechinger, Darrell Payne and Ron Nelson. Josh Garcia had his little 0-4-0 steam en-



gine running and showed it to an admiring group of firefighters.

Bill Schirmer and John Garcia came to the Club the day before to prepare; Bill power-washed the pavement in the Goudie Pavilion and Kountry Kitchen, and cut the grass next to and inside the Gauge One

track. John cleaned out the refrigerators and coordinated repairs for the refrigerator leak and suddenly-malfunctioning ice freezer (incredible timing!)

Thank you everyone for volunteering your time, talent and equipment.

AUGUST POTLUCK/ MOVIE NIGHT/NIGHT RUN



Saturday,
August 25

6:00 pm Potluck
7:30 pm Movie

- Bring your own lawnchairs
- Free popcorn
- Fire up your trains

A behind-the-scenes peek at the battles and victories in the making of the 1964 Walt Disney classic "Mary Poppins".

Luncheon Volunteers



Bill Schirmer
Jeremy Steinart
Roderick Fritz
Tristian Fritz
Jack Strait
Fred Lack
Ted Merchant
Steve Altmayer
Daryl Payne
Ruth Payne
Mel Breese

Christie Edinger
Ryan Hechinger
Ron Nelson
Don Donaldson
Bill Walker
Daniel Lai
Caroline Chang
Diana Manchester
Glen Manchester
John Garcia
Brenda Garcia



Ghost Train — Call for Volunteers

Continued from Page 1

movement, especially in the area in front of the restrooms. However, please watch for crew setting up scenery near the tracks, and be prepared to slow down or stop as necessary. "Safety First" for all involved.

There are many volunteer opportunities for Ghost Train. A call has been issued this week for trains, engineers and conductors. Please contact Roger Bacon if you can help or have questions. We will also need volunteers for Line Management, Ticket/ Souvenir Booth, and nightly Dinners. Signup sheets will be in the Kountry Kitchen.

TTOS-SW Picnic A Success

Members of the **Toy Train Operating Society-SW** and their families celebrated summer and trains at their annual picnic at LALS RM on Saturday, August 4. The Run is hosted each year by **Don Kallgren** and **Steve Waller**.

About 400 guests attended, and even though it was very hot, everyone had a good time. The garden-scale railroad was operating as well as the 7-1/2" rails.

Special thanks to engine owners, engineers, conductors and stationmasters who generously volunteered their time. The Club wishes to thank TTOS-SW President, Larry Pearson and the society for their generous donation. We look forward to seeing you all again next year!

SPLINTERS FROM THE BOARD

(Continued from page 2)

tor for water and sodas taken out. Snapple, cookies and candy are not free, only water and sodas.

Peter announced the family and friend policy for this year's Ghost Train. Each member will be allowed 10 tickets total. The tickets will be available online through John Garcia. Details will follow. Boney Island admission is not included.

Tower Light Purchase: We are looking into the purchase of a tower light to be used for lighting up the parking lot or work areas when needed. A used one will cost about the same as a three-month rental. The light folds up into a little trailer and can be stored in the east meadow with other equipment.

Battery Tender: Miles showed us a battery tender that will be used on Club diesel locomotives to keep the batteries

topped off. This should prevent the dead battery issues we've been experiencing. He showed how to use and reinstall it after each run. Privately-owned locomotives used at Ghost Train must first be certified by Miles Kristman or Jim Cammarata. There will be a tracker caboose with each train set which will track its location and speed. Remember that Ghost Train speed limit is 3 mph.

New One Inch Barn: Drew LaGaly described modifications planned for the 1-inch scale barn proposed by Alex. It will have a little larger footprint, three levels instead of two, and be built on a concrete slab. The building will be prefabbed at their shop and assembled onsite. We now have 12 people needing storage, and the new barn will free up space in the Phil West Barn that can be used for 1- 1/2" scale equipment.

We will need to approve a new porta-

ble Club gas tank that will be refilled every two months. We will have more information next month. We hope to have the electrical update project completed by the end of this year. The box and the pole are here but we are waiting on a permit.

Electric Loco: The Club's electric locomotive is still waiting on parts from the UK. Shipping date keeps getting pushed back. The Club's yellow UP locomotive should be finished before the Halloween run. The purchase of a new locomotive has been put on hold.

Meeting Car AC: When using the Club Office air conditioner, please set it on 75, as it will not cool faster by setting it lower. Be sure to turn it off when you leave. On the other hand, please leave the A/C on in the Meeting Car.

TTOS Donation: to end the meeting on a positive note, Don Kallgren introduced Larry Pearson from TTOS, who thanked us for hosting their picnic on August 4, and presented a donation check to LALS.

Ghost Train Moves Forward

By Alex O'Donnell

We will be having our Fall Meet once again Friday through Sunday, September 14, 15, and 16.

Bring out your trains in 7-1/2", 4-3/4",

3-1/2" Since bringing back our Fall Meets in 2015, they have been a resounding success with attendance increasing year by year.

Based on feedback from last year's Meet, the dates of this year's Meet have been moved back to the third weekend of September in order to improve the meet experience as well as minimize interference with Halloween.

Camping will be limited to the East

End meadow areas and will be on a first-come-first-served basis.

Dinner will be provided by the Kountry Kitchen, while snacks will be offered for breakfast and lunch.

We will also be having a President's Auction on Saturday at 1:00 pm, so bring out your railroad-related items for donation.

See Alex to volunteer to help at the Meet.

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

Club Adds New Librarian; Please Visit Anytime

Hi there LALS members, the Bruce Ward Memorial Library has a new librarian added to the team.

I'm very happy to say Jeremy Steinert, our caretaker, can now open the library upon request and check books and videos in and out to any LALS member.

We very much want the wonderful resources in the Bruce Ward memorial library to be enjoyed by all LALS members.

The library is open most Sundays, and any of us librarians are more than happy to open the library by request any day of the week.

So if you'd like to have access to the library during the week or anytime it isn't open, please feel free to call or contact head librarian Nick Suncin without hesitation, or anyone else on the library team: Jeremy Steinert, Christie Edinger, Mike Murphy, and Lisa Lipton.

We all will be happy to assist you.

SUNDAY EXTRA BOARD

July

Engineers and Conductors

Francis Barnes	Carolyn Hoagland
Bonnie Kaufman	Scott Hoagland
Kathy Crabb	Paul Liu
Mel Breese	Matt McGinnis
Caroline Chang	Bear Mustoe
Joseph Clow	Darell Payne
Don Donaldson	Bob Quinn
Christie Edinger	Steve Sauber
Peter Fuad	Greg Pschaida
Tom Harwood	Jack Streit
Ron Hitchcock	

Souvenirs and Tickets

George Becker, Brenda Garcia, Larry Tighe, Oliver Tighe; Carolyn Hoagland; Martha Figueroa; Kathy Crabb

Safety Coordinators

Wayne Crabb, Jim Cammarata, Ron Hitchcock, Mike Murphy

Station Masters

Larry Mitchell, Wayne Crabb, Larry Tighe; Tom Crue, Don Donaldson, John Garcia, Jeremy Steinart, Matt McGinnis, Greg Pschaida

Ridership

July 1	July 15
July 8	July 22
	July 29

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

August

- 25 Pot luck/night run/movie night
- 25 Special Work Day—Unloading Ghost Train Vans
- 26 Public rides

September

- 2 Public rides
- 9 Public rides; Disney Barn open
- 10 BOD meeting 7:00 p.m.
- 14, 15, 16 Fall Meet *No public rides*
- 22 Pot luck/night run/movie night
- 23 Public rides
- 30 Public rides



LALS RM FALL MEET

SEPTEMBER 14, 15, & 16



Alex O'Donnell,
Meet Chairman

Engines, Members & Modelers from the 2017 Fall Meet

