

# THE RLS CHRONICLE

News of the Riverside Live Steamers



December 2010



“Words O’ Wisdom”  
A New Board of Directors  
Run Days and Work Days  
Plus so much more...



## Giving Thanks in a Big Way

It just happened to work out that our second run day of November landed on the day after Thanksgiving. Out to celebrate a lovely holiday weekend in true “RLS” style are Bob Cummings and Josh Klenski as they pass through the Vandenberg Crossover on November 28, 2010.



### Glenn Maness' Word's O' Wisdom

Here is my first effort at Words of Wisdom as your new president.

I hope that everyone has had a great and thankful Thanksgiving Holiday and has not let all that turkey go to your waist. Of course, it is too late for me!

This year, we have a lot to accomplish on our railroad: resetting all the removed track and putting our railroad back into full operation. We will need help from everyone because of the staggering amount of work to be done. We have always had great turnouts for our workdays and, hopefully, that will continue through the next year. We will endeavor to keep everyone informed about what's going on with the contractor and the City with the reconstruction of the park.

I want to thank everyone that has worked so hard on the board these past years. I would like to have input from all of you during this coming year. We can't say enough about our camp cooks, Curtis and Donna Claybrook. They have done a fantastic job with the lunches on our work days, and especially the full turkey dinner on our last work day in November. We hope they will continue to be our camp cooks, but remember they are not available during tax season. We need to be thinking of someone who can fill-in during their absence.

Just a reminder to everyone to send in your reservations for the annual dinner: The cutoff date is January 17.

We would also like to know when our members are ill or "under the weather" so we can offer some cheer and comfort.

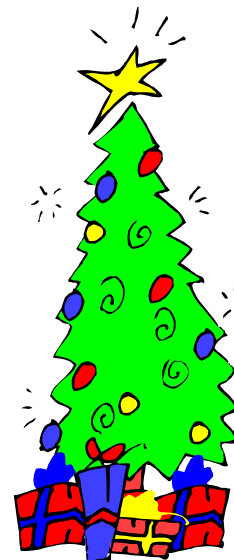
Until next time, "keep the steel side down."

Glenn Maness, President, RLS

*Merry Christmas,  
Everyone!*

### You know you're addicted to live-steaming when...

The one gift on your Christmas list that you wish for above all others is coal. Lots and lots of coal....







### November 14th Run Day!

If there was only a way to have a trumpet fanfare blare out of the page right now: That would be a very appropriate way to announce our first run day in two months! The weather was perfect! The steam was perfect! The locomotives were perfect! The track was per.... welll.... maybe not so perfect. But, it didn't matter, because we were running on them... making the tracks seem PERFECT! About the only thing missing was Mary Poppins: to make this practically-perfect-in-every-way day.... truly perfect.

Bringing out the locomotives on our first run day in many months (it was 8 weeks... but it seemed like many months) were Warren and Wesley Peterson with their spiffy ten-wheeler; David Moore with his enormous Challenger; Bill McLaughlin with his shined-up ten-wheeler; the Parrott's with "Moana" the Shay, and pulling the public on the club's C-16 was Bill Hesse (Tamiann Parrott was the train's brakema... errr.. "brake-lady" for the day). Also helping out with the public was Tom Lawson on his flawless Berkshire. Jim Kreider road as Brakeman on Tom's train. Making sure our passengers boarded and understood the rules of our railroad, Glenn Maness, our benevolent Station Master, performed his duties flawlessly (almost as if he's done them many, many.... many, many times before).

Keeping track of all the locomotives, the needs of the public trains, and even some maintenance being done on the railroad, Book Adams was our Operations Supervisor of the day. Before the operations ended, about 20 RLS members had come down to enjoy what turned out to be a very fine day for steam!



Spanning the Gap: On the Nov. 14 run day, there were still several open trenches where construction workers had tunneled under our tracks to lay conduit. Larry Jongerious eases the C-16 over one of those gaps.





## November Work Day and the Annual RLS Meeting

Though it was our regularly scheduled work day, the weather had a different plan in store. Rain began falling on Hunter Park in the wee hours of the Saturday, Nov. 20 morning. As more RLS members showed up to perform work on the mainline, the rain continued to get stronger and stronger. Thus, it was decided everyone would work on reorganizing the inside of the club house. However, once inside and working diligently, the rain subsided. The decision was then be made to go back out and try again. Sure as the clouds that hung in the sky, once the workers had their shovels and track tools in hand, the rain made sure everyone knew who (or what) was in charge of the situation. So, once everyone re-retreated into the club house to resume work inside, the rain, naturally, went away. This cycle repeated twice before everyone settled on staying inside to give the club house a good work over. By the end of the work period, the place looked mighty good. Good enough, in fact, to serve a classy meal within it... which is exactly what happened next.

Being the Saturday before Thanksgiving, Donna and Curtis Claybrook felt it would be appropriate to serve a wonderful turkey dinner with all the trimmings. They purchased a 20 pound bird and began the cooking process the night before. Come Saturday at 11:30, this meal was lovingly served to all present. It was indeed a special moment and meal.

Bill Hesse called to order the Annual Meeting at 12:30. Right out of the box, the club members present reviewed the club's revised by-laws as submitted by the by-laws committee. As this was the first read, a couple of small corrections were made. However, there was one relatively big change to the non-resident mileage requirement. The provision previously considered a non-resident to live 150 miles from the RLS. It is now a 100 mile radius. The second reading of the amended by-laws will be at the December 18<sup>th</sup> meeting with the final vote and adaptation happening at the Annual Dinner on January 18<sup>th</sup> (more on that later).

After Rich Casford gave a good presentation about the state of our park aided by information from Bill Gardner, our city liaison, it was time to count the ballots to see who would make up our new Board of Directors. Leaving the Board were Bill Hesse, Brook Adams, Bill Gardner and Tamiann Parrott: we can't thank them enough for helping guide the club through the past couple of years. After the many ballots were opened, sorted and counted, here are the results: Dave Bunts, Glenn Maness, Dave Parrott and Dean Willoughby would be returning to the BoD. After careful consideration the Board now sits thusly: President, Glenn Maness; Vice President, Dave Bunts; Secretary, Rich Casford; Treasurer, Dean Willoughby; Directors will be Dana Adams, Al Bondesen, John Lytle, and Dave Parrott. The best of luck goes out to our new Board... there's lots on the club's plate right now.



## A Changing of the Guard

There are times when words are hard to come by when preparing the Chronicle each month. Sometimes, it will take a couple of days to get through a writer's block. This time, for this story, the words just never came out right... mostly because of the huge amount of history involved.

Before the BoD Meeting on November 20<sup>th</sup> commenced, Brook



Adams read a letter to everyone that, quite frankly, knocked the wind out of my sails: Ken Casford was resigning from the position as Road One. Even writing this, it simply doesn't look right. And it hurts.

As long as I have been involved with the RLS (since 1977-78), Ken was Road One. Whether it was designing the Vandenberg grade, replacing the wood trestle with a steel one, or something as simple as raking pine needles away from the rails, Ken was right there... making sure our railroad was running at the top of its game. In many, many instances, our club still stands because of this man's efforts to keep it, with all of its history and traditions, in place.

Now, I do have some good news that comes from this changing of the guard. With the blessing of the BoD, Rich Casford has become Road One. However, he did have one condition before accepting: Rich wouldn't do it unless Ken became Road Two and be Rich's right-hand man. Thus, our club will be in very good hands.

When I took over as the editor for the Chronicle (from Ken, I might add), I promised the club I wouldn't take advantage of this position by using it to editorialize. However, for this article, I simply couldn't write in 3<sup>rd</sup> person prose as this story is simply too personal... and that's because Ken is just too darned personal. He deserves a lot of thanks from all of us.

Ken... from the bottom of my heart: Thank you... for everything you have done, continue to do, and will do for our club.

Dave Parrott





## What a Great Season!!

Tis' the season to be jolly! December brings such wonderful moments for all of us to celebrate: Run days in the cold air (love the show of steam!), the beginning of winter, Christmas, time to spend with family and friends, the end-of-the-year reminiscing, and (of course) on the top of the list is paying the RLS Dues! Yes, it's that time again when we happily open our wallets and pay into the coffers of our beloved club. Being a member has its privileges: work days, steam trains, work days, friends, work days, steam trains, family, work days, some good food, work days, steam trains, good laughs, work days, clean toilets (only on work days), work days, camaraderie, a bunch of steam trains and a couple of work days. And why do we pay? Because we love our club! Heck, receiving the Chronicle alone is worth the dues we pay (they work great to get a coal fire going...). Remember, regular dues are \$50 per person, non-resident dues are \$25 per person, and junior members (15 and under) are \$12. So... what are we gonna do? Pay our dues! Hooray!!! (oh yeah... and attend a couple of those work days)

## The Annual Dinner Cometh

Glenn Maness, besides being our new president, has also been organizing our Annual Dinner. This is that one chance where we get to see what we look like all dressed up and not covered in soot, oil and grease. This year's event was scheduled to be held at a place right next to the BNSF mainline. Unfortunately, that place has fallen on difficult times and is going out of business. So, quick-thinking Glenn booked our event into the Hidden Valley Golf Club's



clubhouse and banquet room. Located at 10 Clubhouse Dr., up in the hills of Norco (Google Maps, Yahoo Maps, Map Quest), this is a *nice* place! Dinner will be buffet-style with BBQ chicken, tri-tip, garlic roasted potatoes, veggies, cornbread, Caesar salad, dessert, coffee, tea and sodas. Not only will there be good food, there will also be entertainment, a special guest speaker, door prizes, raffles, a 50/25/25 cash drawing and RLS Awards. The date is Saturday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> and the cost is \$30 per person. By now, everyone should have received their reservation list/R.S.V.P. So, please get your RSVP back to Glenn by January 17<sup>th</sup>. Come for the friendship, stay for the food, and enjoy our once-a-year event that is sure to bring good memories and cheer.



## November 28<sup>th</sup> Run Day

Breezy, a little cool, but other than that, Nov. 28 was a great day to be out at the club running trains. Several RLS members must have thought the same thing as seven locomotives were under steam and about 20 more members came to enjoy the day. Keeping the steel-side down were Wesley Peterson (4-6-0), Jonathan Chase (4-4-2), Bob Cummings (2-8-2), Josh Klenski (4-6-4), the Parrott Family (Shay), Bill Mac (4-6-0) and Rich Casford was the engineer on the club's C-16. Bill Hesse held down the position of Brakeman and Al Bondesen was the day's Operation's Supervisor.

The day also saw a new addition to our operations: a "Club Car" with a dumping bed. Dave Bunts and Bill Hesse were sighted several times zipping through the vast dirt fields of the park. They say they were trying to give the thing a fair shake-down... to make sure it would perform well. It just seemed there were a few too many smiles for an event that was so scientifically based (Maybe they were testing the "fun factor"). Either way, the cart passed their approval and now belongs to the club. Expect to see it regularly enlisted on work days.







**One Year ago in December, Bob Smith eases the C-16 into Soccer Curve, taking a load of passengers around the park via a figure-8 lap. The park was refreshingly empty that day!**

#### COMING EVENTS:

**Dec. 12:** Run Day!

**Dec. 18:** Workday and Monthly Board Meeting

**Dec. 26:** Christmas Run Day (close enough)

**Jan. 9:** Run Day!

**Jan. 15:** Workday and Monthly Board Meeting

**Jan. 22:** **Annual Dinner (Be there!)**

**Jan. 23:** Post-Dinner Run Day!

Visit the RLS Website: [www.steamonly.org](http://www.steamonly.org)

The R.L.S. Chronicle is published by The Riverside Live Steamers, Inc., P.O. Box 5512, Riverside, CA. 92518. The railroad is located at Hunter Park, 1496 Columbia Ave., Riverside, CA. Call (951) 779-9024 during scheduled activities for more information. Public run days are the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of the month. Work days (Fun Days) are the 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday followed by the Monthly Board of Directors Meeting at 1:00 p.m. at Hunter Park.

#### Riverside Live Steamers' Board of Directors

##### OFFICERS

**President:** Glenn Maness

**Vice President:** Dave Bunts

**Secretary:** Rich Casford

**Treasurer:** Dean Willoughby

##### DIRECTORS

Al Bondesen

Dayna Adams

John Lytle

David Parrott