

THE RLS CHRONICLE

News of the Riverside Live Steamers



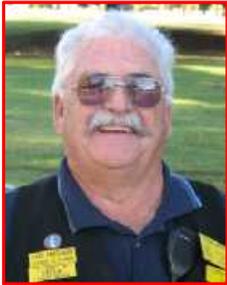
February 2011

**“Words O’ Wisdom”
Lot’s of Run Days
Capital Project #1
Plus so much more...**



Catching the Sun

A cool winter day met the RLS folks on January 9th, but that didn't stop Randy Chase and his close friend Connie from making several laps before they rounded the curve while heading into Panorama Siding for a water stop. There were several other locomotives either out running or being worked on in the compound. Read more about it inside...



Glenn Maness' Word's O' Wisdom

Greetings to our RLS family and friends. This first month of our new year has passed and a lot of exciting things have happened during this time. The rain has stopped and the park is dry so the contractor is working again. This gives us hope they may get back on schedule with the reconstruction of our park. There is still an awful lot of work to be completed before we can start laying track so we just have to be patient with the construction and hope track laying can begin soon. There are plans being drawn for additional trackage as soon as the railroad is back in full operation.

We appreciate the extraordinary turnout on our work days, especially on our capital project, the Hollywood Switch.

Our annual RLS dinner was a great success. Everyone really enjoyed the food and the facility. Our 50-25-25 raffle raised just under \$300. I would like to thank everyone who donated door prizes for the raffle. I would also like to thank the people who helped with the dinner. Especially the Parrott family who provided the videos and music, and Tamiann who made the dessert. I would also like to thank my wife, Eldonna, for doing the name badges and award certificates. Also the Casford's photo displays of the current condition of the park

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

You boss say, "You're Fired!", and you think to yourself, "With bituminous? Maybe good Welsh coal.... Hmm.... Oil? Bunker-C is too thick Propane! No... couldn't be with propane...."

We like to recognize and honor our members who have donated their time and service like – the outgoing board members who served during the initial reconstruction.

Bill Hesse – Board Member/President
 Book Adams – Board Member/Secretary
 Tamiann Parrott – Board Member/Treasurer
 Bill Gardner – Director and on-going City Liaison

Special recognition was given to Curtis and Donna Claybrook as our Camp Cooks. Our Nut Busters of the year are Lew Kader and Tom Lawson. Live Steamer of the year is Rich Casford. A very special lifetime achievement award was given to Ken Casford for his 39 years' service as Road Master , Road 1. Dave Bunts was given honorary membership for his time and service to the club.

In closing, just a reminder that we still have a lot of work to do. On our next work day, we are looking for a large turnout to finish promptly so we can all enjoy Norma Casford's world famous Chili lunch.

Glenn Maness
 President





New Years Run Day

Everyone has their preferred way to celebrate the New Year: Watch the Rose Parade; the Rose Bowl; have breakfast, lunch, and/or dinner with friends and relatives. But for a few, the tradition requires an abundance of fire and steam. Even though it's not an advertised event, the tradition of our New Year's Day run becomes more and more popular with each passing year. This year was no exception as four locomotives came under fire and about 25 members popped into the club during the course of the day.



Firing the locomotives and giving our members a chance to ponder their New Year's resolutions while riding the rails was Kasey Farwick (2-6-0), Ron Wilkerson (4-6-0), Nathan & David Parrott (Shay) and Warren & Wesley Peterson (4-6-0).

Though the day started out cool, by mid-day the temperature had risen to a comfortable 65 degrees. However, by 2:00, a chill began to set in, and by 3:00, the 50 degree (and dropping) temperature was a little too cool. As a result, one by one, RLS folks closed the book on the first day of 2011.

“Whooooooo are you... who, who... who, who....”

Hey everyone! Sure... you know who *you* are, but do all of your fellow members know your name? RLS has always been known as a friendly club and what makes it so is knowing our members names. So... wear your name badge when you come to the club. Not only will you make new friends, but the Operating Superintendent won't make you put on a guest name tag! If you have broken or lost your name badge, contact Secretary Rich Casford or Master Badge Maker Brook Adams. It's easy: you can find either one of these guys at the club... because they wear their name badges!

Line 'em up!

When parking within the compound, please park perpendicular to the fence, between the fence posts. We will be able to accommodate far more vehicles this way. Thanks!





Quite a Gathering

They came, they saw, they experienced, they ate, they laughed, and they left with a heightened sense of unity. Who are “they”? All of the RLS members and guests who came to the Annual Dinner... that’s who. Nearly half of the fun was the drive up to the Norco Hills Golf Club (just ask Brook or Joan Adams). In fact, of all the venues the dinner has been held at in the past ten years, this was, by far, the most impressive. Nestled up in the hills over-looking Norco/Corona is the Hidden Valley Golf Course. Due to the closing of the venue we had previously scheduled for our Annual Dinner, quick-thinking Glenn Maness scheduled our event in the banquet room at the Hidden Valley Golf Course. The views from the banquet room are impressive as was the food and staff.

During the three-hour event, everyone was treated to good laughs, great food, fun prizes, and an interesting guest speaker: Chris Guenzler... the One-Million Rail Miles Man. His presentation was how he ratcheted up over a million miles while riding the rails. Backed by a pair of slide shows consisting of pictures from his many rail adventures, the RLS folks were treated to a few of the stories leading up to his momentous achievement.

After Mr. Guenzler’s presentation, Glenn Maness took to the podium to present several awards to our members for their various achievements which included our two Nut Buster Awards going to Tom Lawson and Lew Kader; our Live Steamer of the Year award went to Rich Casford; Dave Bunts received an Honorary Membership for his time and commitment to the club, and the Claybrooks for being our Camp Cooks at nearly every work day. However, the highlight of the awards ceremony happened when Ken Casford was presented a much deserved “Lifetime Achievement Award” for his many, many years of unwavering service and dedication to the RLS.

The entire program wound up with a video presenting the RLS in review, put to the movie music of the Magnificent Seven (if you didn’t receive a copy of this video, even if you didn’t attend the dinner, please see Dave Parrott as he has several extra copies that need a good home).



If you didn’t get the chance to join us at this year’s Annual Dinner, next year’s will be held at the same place. Hope to see you there!



January 9th Run Day

For the second run day in the month of January, RLS members were treated, yet again, to a nasty wintery blast: Temps in the... low 60's, skies heavy with the color blue and speckled with light clouds, and gale force winds in the neighborhood of... 5 mph. Yes... it's good to be in So. California! Out enjoying the weather (while the rest of the country froze) and adding more condensation to the atmosphere than nature could drum up, were seven locomotives and about twenty members.

Braving the weather were Warren and Wesley Peterson (4-6-0), Ron Wilkerson (4-6-0), the Parrott family (Shay), Bob Cummings (2-8-2), Randy and Jonathan Chase (4-4-2), and Dave Moore (4-6-6-4). Bob Smith engineered our public train with the club's C-16. Pulling non-stop brakeman duties was our tireless A.J. Benson. Making sure our riding public safely boarded and disembarked each train was Glenn Maness.



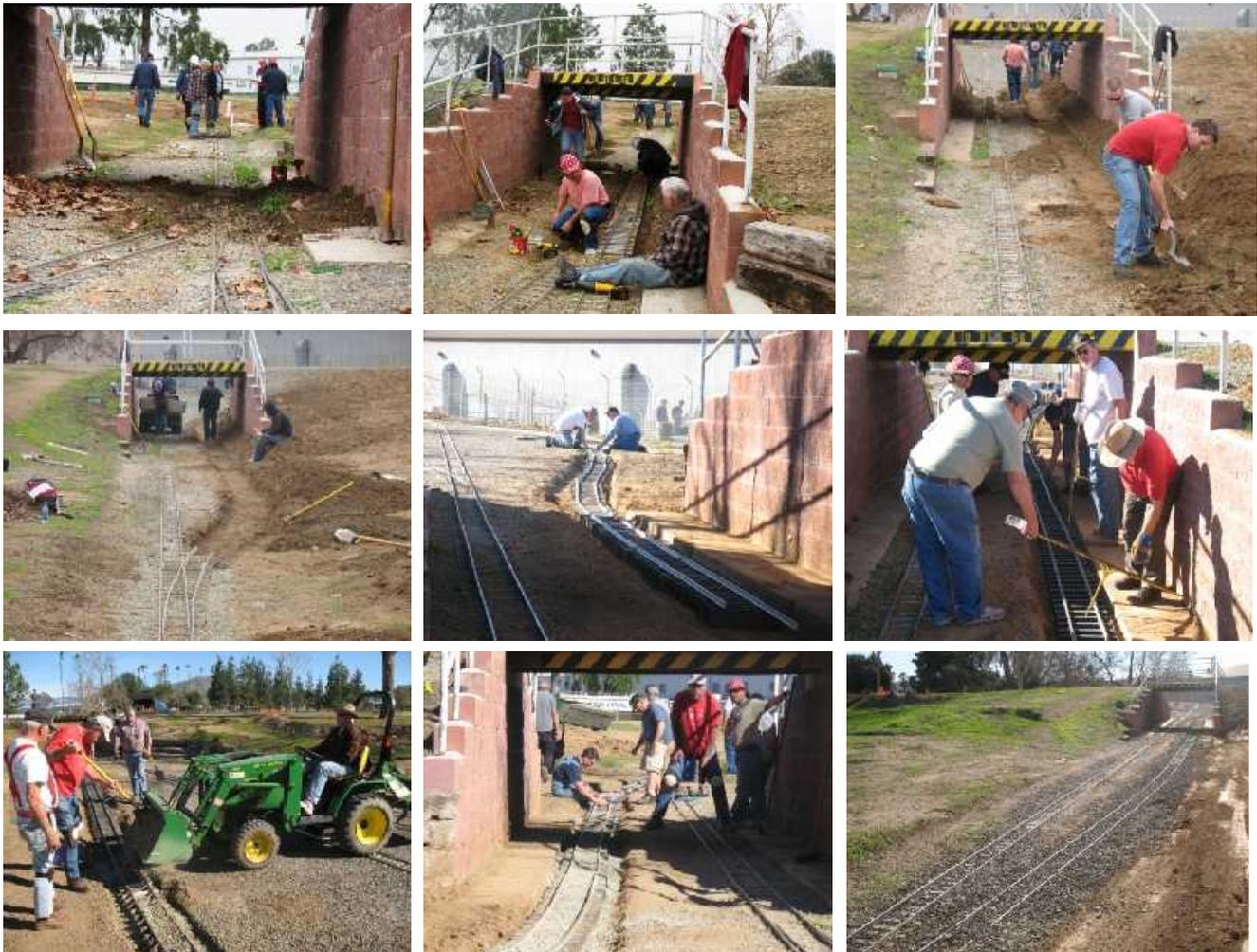
Space... the inside frontier

Do you have equipment you would like to operate at RLS but hate to load and unload at home? We have a simple solution: Rent a storage track at RLS! Storage Manager Rich Casford reports that space is available in all of our storage buildings. With your equipment already at the RLS, it's almost a sure thing that you'll have more fun and more "steam time".



Capital Project #1... completed!

With the New Year came a few new resolves at the RLS. One of those was to extend the North Fuel Lead in Allen's Valley. Not only would it allow the Hunter train to get water and fuel without fouling the mainline, more importantly, it would move the Hollywood Switch out from under the overpass where several of our taller members have had the sensitivity of their skulls checked (Larry Nilles comes up short for understanding this concept). Thus, on a cool morning of January 8, several members showed up to put in a good day's work. Rich Casford had scheduled to simply move the switch east about 100 feet... no biggy. And with 15 folks ready to work, the job was done rather quickly. However, instead of breaking, the group just kept going. Before the end of the day, the roadbed for the new extension was dug, sighted in and leveled... ready for track! It was an impressive show of dedication. One week later (our regular work day), most of the same group plus several others came down to the club to finish the job. Before the bell rang for lunch, 180 feet of track had been installed, ballasted, leveled and partially tamped. By the January 23rd run day, the siding was up and ready for business, making our Road Master one very happy camper!





January Work Day (part 2) and Board of Director's Meeting

While thirteen or fourteen RLS folks worked on the Fuel Siding extension, there were several more members hard at work elsewhere in the compound and in Hunter Park. To begin with, Ron Wilkerson and Bill McLaughlin ran the weed sprayer around our short loop and included a run up to track's-end at Summit (the first time a train has been there since July 2010). Inside the compound, Larry Jongerious tediously worked on the burner and injectors of the C-16, while others pulled weeds, raked leaves and cleaned the floors inside the club house. Bill Hesse continued the install of 120v extension lines inside the Noble/Quick Building and finished the conduit for the video surveillance system the will keep an eye on Allen's Valley. Shortly after 12:00, the lunch bell rang and 27 hungry RLS folks came in from the fields for their burgers and hot dogs provided the Parrott family (substitute grubmeisters for the day).

After the hearty cowboy-style meal, everyone made their way into the clubhouse for the month's Board of Director's meeting. Though it was short, a lot of good information was dispensed. Rich Casford commended all the workers who showed up for the past two Saturday's to complete the Fuel Siding extension. Bill Hesse got everyone up to speed with the addition of the electrical lines in the Noble/Quick Building (to be used for charging batteries for brake systems), and Brook Adams reported that Glenn Maness' caboose is fixed and ready for service after a long time off the rails. Bill Gardner gave an interesting report that the contractor will have the roadbed along Summit and over to Big Tree ready for track in two weeks, should we want to relay that soon. The Board decided it would be best if we hold off until all of the heavy equipment has left the park before we risk relaying so much track. Dave Parrott passed around a sample of an RLS "business" card that can be handed out to anybody interested in riding our trains. On it was all the pertinent information: address, times and days of operation, website address, and donations are always welcome! The cards will be available for any member to grab a small stack to hand out to the public. Finally, Ryan Turley reported that five-dozen of the new "member's only" RLS shirts are being printed and will be available soon.

January 23rd Run Day

So many activities at the RLS... so little space to report them in. Too sum up: The final run day of January was beautiful! Seven locomotives came under fire and ran until nearly sundown: Robert Butler, 2-6-0; Ron Wilkerson, 4-6-0; Scott and Brook Adams, 2-6-0; The Parrotts, Shay; Bill Mac, 4-6-0; Jonathan Chase, 4-4-2; Bob Smith, 2-8-0 (Club's C-16). Both the C-16 and Moana the Shay pulled public. Brakeman duties were handled by Bill Hesse, David Parrott, Nathan Parrott, and Jonathan Parrott. The O.S was Glenn Maness, thus Tamiann Parrott was our Station Master.



It began: One Year ago on February 14th, 2010, the City began the Renaissance Program to redo and renew Hunter Park. At first, it wasn't more than a few trees being cut down. One year later, the park is in the thick of a complete transformation.

COMING EVENTS:

Feb. 13: Run Day

Feb. 19: Work Day and Monthly Board Meeting

Feb. 27: Run Day

Mar. 13: Run Day

Mar. 19: Work Day and Monthly Board Meeting

Mar. 27: Run Day

Visit the RLS Website: 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 2nd & 4th Sundays of the month. Work days (Fun Day) are held the Saturday following the first run day of each month. The monthly Board of Directors Meeting is held at 1:00 p.m. at Hunter Park on the same Saturday as our work days.

Riverside Live Steamers' Board of Directors

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President: Glenn Maness

Vice President: Dave Bunts

Secretary: Rich Casford

Treasurer: Dean Willoughby

DIRECTORS

Dayna Adams

Al Bondesen

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