

Whistles in the Woods

Published by Adirondack Live Steamers

OPERATING 6500 FEET OF TRACK IN THE FOOTHILLS OF THE ADIRONDACKS

7 1/4" GAUGE 1 1/2" SCALE

OPERATING GAUGE 1 TRACKAGE FOR STEAM AND ELECTRIC

SAFETY FIRST

APRIL 2006

GOOD FOOD, GOOD PEOPLE, AND A GOOD TIME HAD BY ALL

Ken Nelson

On Sunday, March 6, 77 members of ALS enjoyed a fine dinner, in many cases seeing each other for the first time in months. This was the date of our annual Winter Banquet, and thanks to a lot of work by our own Pete Petrillose, everyone had a fine afternoon. A large thank you goes out to Joyce Crawford of Joyce's Country Kitchen for her catering and food preparation. In addition, Pete had the help of much of his family including Cecilia Jordan, Sue Arcaro, Cindy and Mark Petrillose, daughter-in-law Doreen, and grand daughters Megan, Bridget, and Erin.

Following the banquet, there were the usual door prizes, and we want to express our appreciation to all of our members who contributed prizes. President Rich Dean gave a short report on what is planned in the immediate

future, and Don Buesing presented a short history of how our club got its start. Five charter members, including Don and Henry Buesing, Frank DeSantis, Ray Dwyer, and Tom Rhodes were honored and presented with gifts, and the entertainment section of the program was topped off by a slide presentation on the Cumbres and Toltec Scenic Railroad. As many of you know, this is a narrow gauge railroad which operates through the states of Colorado and New Mexico. Don Buesing showed about a twenty minute series of great slides from one of his visits to the railroad.

Our Banquet seems to grow in attendance every year, and we hope that those of you who missed this year's event will make plans to join us next year. Thank you Pete! ***

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**Next Meeting: Saturday, April 8, 2006, 1:00 PM
Club House**

**Deadline for April *Whistles in the Woods*:
Monday, April 10 (Note: Earlier than usual)**

Other Important Dates: See Last Page

President's Corner

Richard Dean, President

It's amazing how fast time flies! Here it is April 2006! Winter is over and now it's time to play trains. Yippee!!!!

I know I have much to do to get my own Ten Wheeler ready for another year of steaming. This includes, but by no means is limited to, my changing some old valves, installing a new whistle valve, and most importantly, a hydro test of the boiler. Also the brakes need checking and the safety chains/ropes need to be renewed. Oh, I almost forgot ... a new O-ring for the axle pump. There always seems to be something to repair on a steamer. For that matter, it doesn't make a difference if the locomotive is a steamer, a smelly diesel (Oh no. Now you know my true feelings) or an electric, we ALL need to do maintenance on our trains to keep them running safely.

There was a wonderful turnout for the March banquet. Thank you, Peter Petrillose and family, for putting on such a fine get together! And also, thank you Don Buesing for the slide shows of the beginning of the Adirondack Live Steamers and the Cumbres and Toltec Railroad. They were a treat. It was amazing how small and few the trees were 20+ years ago at ALS.

Concerning the Club House, hopefully by the time you read this, the Certificate of Occupancy will be near to completion. If we could get a little more work out of the electrician and the heating installers, maybe the CO could be done. Also, there needs to be a major clean up effort, ASAP! We need to sort, clean, and reorganize everything in the great room. So, come and be ready to help with this major project. The 2006 Spring Meet will be here before we know it.

See you at the track.

Richard Dean President (and sometimes Electrician)

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GLEN ARMITAGE DIES

Glen N. Armitage, 75, of Ballston Spa, died March 16, 2006 at St. Peters Hospital, after a short illness. He was a graduate of the State University of Albany and Albany Law School. He served in the Coast Guard and the Reserves for 21 years. He was an assistant attorney general for the State of New York in Albany for 11 years before opening his own practice in Clifton Park. He was a member of the Living Springs Community Church in Saratoga Springs.

Glen has been a Regular Member of ALS for many years along with his son Mark. Our deepest sympathy goes out to his entire family. ***

Whistles in the Woods
NEWSLETTER OF THE
ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS
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NEWSLETTER

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SUBMISSIONS: *Whistles in the Woods* welcomes articles, news items, classifieds, digital photos, and other contributions. Please contact any of the staff.

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MEMBERSHIP

Anyone interested in joining the ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS should contact Jeane Lutz, Membership Secretary.

Phone: (732) 541-6614
E-mail: JEANEL76@MINDSPRING.COM

DUMP TRAILER NEEDED

Ken Nelson

We have a lot of earth to move, rearrange, and level in order to begin the task of re-working DeSantis Divide, and beginning the construction of our new service trackage. President Rich Dean has asked me to request the help of a dump trailer. If you have access to one, know of someone who could loan us one for a period of time, or are aware of a source from which the club could have one donated, please let Rich know. Although a lot of dirt has been moved with the help of our club tractor, the work would go much faster with a dump trailer. ***

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FOR SALE

0-6-0 Steam Locomotive and Tender

Propane fired; All copper boiler; Current Pennsylvania Live Steamers Boiler Certificate; 2 New (2004) Super Scale Safetys: 110/114; 2 Injectors (Reeves); Axle Pump; Keim Steam Pump; Steam operated Bell; Steam operated Cylinder Cocks; Headlight and Cab Lights (external battery) Whistle; Steam Generator (functional but non-operational); Mechanical lubricator for cylinders; Vacuum Locomotive and Tender Brakes; Vacuum line for Train Brakes; Brass Slopeback Tender with full rivet detail; Includes 50' Metal Box Car (no brakes) with two 40 lbs propane tanks with internal baffles; Car open on bottom; Top lifts off; Ollie Dodson roller bearing trucks; Can run 6-8 hours average. No smell. Includes rolling track Work Bench for loco and tender, and custom built single wood car barn for outdoor propane car. Loco has pulled 10 adults up 2% grade. Located at Pennsylvania Live Steamers.. Asking \$13,750 to ALS Members.

Trailer Asking \$2500

Patrick Murphy (610)659-9418

PMurphy129@aolcom

Photos: www.pjmorgans.com

Llyn's Summary

Recording Secretary's Report

Llyn Rice

The Directors met on 18 February to plan for the March Membership Meeting and they:

- Decided to reinforce the need for all cargo trailers to be stored in the designated area.
- Developed a proposed list of new club projects to be the focus of the 2006 building season.
- Considered how to encourage members to volunteer to work on and even lead club projects.
- Heard a financial summary from our new treasurer, Glenn Freedman, who said we seem to be in solid shape.
- Put together a proposed budget for 2006.

Our President, Richard Dean, called the Membership Meeting of 4 March 2006 to order at 1:10. The membership heard the secretary's and the treasurer's reports. Jeane Lutz, Membership Secretary, was unable to attend, so action on new members was tabled until the next meeting.

The meeting then addressed old business and the membership:

- Learned that Ken Nelson had suffered a mild heart attack and was making a good recovery.
- Heard a report on Clubhouse construction status and learned what tasks need to be completed before the Spring Meet.
- Received a reminder that all cargo trailers must be parked in the designated area.
- Heard reports on the Gauge #1 layout, plans for the upcoming Lionel Train Convention visit and the status of space available in the car barn.
- Had a lengthy discussion on what to do now that the commonly available pressure-treated lumber will, if used for ties, corrode aluminum rail. Bud Weinreich knows of a possible source of the old type lumber and volunteered to see if he can line some up.

The meeting then addressed new business and the membership:

- Approved the proposed list of new projects to be started in 2006:
 1. Rework DeSantis Divide – Widen the underpass, put in a double track and make sure that the minimum radius increases from 50 feet to 75 feet through that area.
 2. Complete Piasecki Bridge – Weld mounting tabs for the top bracing in place, sand-blast the structure and paint it.
 3. Club House Construction – Complete the tasks necessary to obtain a Certificate of Occupancy, make the kitchen useable for Meets (sealing floor first), install the kitchen vent hood and put shelving in the storage area behind the kitchen.
 4. Remove Leaning Trees – Take down any leaning trees which threaten to fall on the tracks or damage any club facilities such as buildings or bridges.
 5. Earth moving – Move earth as necessary to realign the track at DeSantis Divide and, as time permits also begin cutting and filling as necessary for the future new south track loop and the new station storage tracks.
- Approved the proposed budget for 2006.
- Had an extensive discussion on what needs to be done to realign DeSantis Divide and realized that we very much need for a member to come forward and lead this effort. ***

Notes From Jeane

Membership Secretary's Report Jeane Lutz

Hello to all of you that have been hibernating all winter. Time to wake up and get your mind into the ALS frame. It won't be long now and we shall all be back at the track. I cannot wait to see how much has been done on the new depot. I understand it is real close to going for the Certificate of Occupancy.

Just how much time have you given to this worthy project? Now that a new year is starting, maybe you should really take stock in how much you do for YOUR club. No matter how old, weak in mind or body, or how far away you live, there is always something that you can do. As a matter of fact a lot of our weekly workers are of the older and usually wiser set. I realize that most of us are still working especially so we can stay in this great club, but we need to re-evaluate what we can do to help. We will be starting another big project soon, the preparation for the new section of track. We need volunteers!

I have just sent out 88 Membership in Jeopardy cards to those who have still not paid your dues. This is really embarrassing for our club that this many cards have to be mailed out each year to those who just don't sit down and send in their dues. Why does it take this long for you to pay your dues? Maybe when you send in your check you could add a little note for me as to why it has taken so long. We give you four months in which to pay your dues. Most clubs only give you thirty days. Maybe this is the way we should go. Reduce the time so you will remember. This is your club and this costs money. This money comes out of the budget so it is your money that we are spending on cards, stamps and just the time in itself. Just so you know in advance, any dues not paid by April 1 per our by-laws, will go before the membership to be expunged. You will then be required to re-apply for membership and must wait until the next membership meeting to be accepted. It would be my recommendation that the constant offenders not be accepted, but the final decision will be with the board.

We have many fun activities that we would like to start this year as well as all of our regular events. And in 2008, it will be our 25th Anniversary. This is now in the planning stages as it takes a while to plan and confirm a lot of these activities. We would really like to do this up big as we are the premier club on the east coast. Any ideas will be welcomed and discussed, so see that this is one place that you can be of assistance.

Our membership Day is Saturday, May 20th and we need help that day. We still need greeters, engineers to give rides to prospective members, people to run their "G" scale trains, someone to cook Hots and Hams for those that would like to purchase lunch, someone to organize a list of donations of food for that day and members to walk around the club with prospective new members. We had a great turnout last year and it looks

(Continued on page 6) See **Notes From Jeane**

Notes From Jeane (*Continued from page 5*)

like another great turnout is expected for this year. Spring Meet will be just around the corner from Membership Day. The dates are Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, June 9, 10, and 11. We will need all sorts of help on these days also. No one has to bear the whole three days but if you can donate any time at all please contact Don Buesing at (518) 587-3172. I am sure he can find something for all of you to help with. We have lots of guests over these days and many of the "regular workers" get pretty burned out by Sunday. Again, many hands make light work.

These are the first two events of our season that require a group of volunteers. Please consider helping where you can. And of course please remember that every Saturday is a work day. If you cannot work on that day and wish to play that is OK to. We would really like to see many new faces and a lot of old ones too this summer. This is your club so please participate in it.

Please remember the April 1 deadline and if you get a card in the mail and have sent in your dues, it may be that they crossed in the mail or that I have made an error; remember that I am human also.

I hope to see a lot of you this summer and when there is an event going on, I can usually be found in the Emporium. Stop by and say hello, or sit for a spell and yak. Come and have fun.

See you at the track.

Jeane

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SPRING MEET JUST AROUND THE CORNER

As indicated in several parts of this month's newsletter, our Spring Meet will be coming on June 10, 11, and 12. It is not too early to begin thinking about helping for this annual ALS happening.

Vice President Don Buesing has consented to chair this event. He very much needs, and would like your help. If you were one of the members who helped in last year's Fall Meet, and would be willing to help again, please give Don a call at (518) 587-3172 and make him aware of your willingness to assist in this year's Meet. If you could not make it last year, perhaps you can for Spring Meet.

Please keep in mind that we need help on all of the days of the Meet. Many people would like to help on

Saturday morning, when they are going to be there anyway. While this is very much appreciated, there are many who work on Fridays, and can only attend Saturday. If you are retired, or can otherwise be of assistance on Thursday, Friday, or Sunday, please let Don know. Don't wait for Don to call you. Give Don a break, and call him. Please don't let this fall on the usual ten to twelve people who do everything. We have jobs for everyone, even if you are not able to do heavy work.

Registration, working the lift, clean up, kitchen, and running for food are only a few of the possible jobs. Please plan now to be part of the group. Join us, have fun, and **help.** ***

DeSANTIS DIVIDE TO BE REWORKED

Progress has long been considered a very important element in any organization. We have all heard the saying "If you aren't progressing, you are going backwards."

After many years of derailments at our tight radius area of DeSantis Divide, the membership has decided that it is time to rework this important interlocking.

For those newer members who do not have a track plan with them, DeSantis Divide is the area at the very end of the railroad by the ballast dump. It starts at the turnout which goes to the container, and proceeds under a bridge to Snyder's Crossing next to the crossing shanty.

As you may have already read in Llyn's column, it has been decided to widen this underpass, put in double track, and rework the radius of the curve from 50 feet to 75 feet in radius.

This project will begin this spring, and we will need a lot of help from our members. We will make every attempt to keep the railroad open as long as

possible, but the speed at which we can work will depend on the amount of help we have. It is very important that we have the line open for Membership Day and Spring Meet.

After the area is surveyed, several track panels and turnouts need to be built, the bridge/underpass needs to be widened, the ballast dump needs to be rebuilt, and all of the new track will need laying and ballasting.

We would very much like a member to come forward and take charge of this project. Everyone will need to help in any way they can. It will take a lot of work, but keep in mind that as a club we have already successfully built two tunnels, constructed Piasecki Bridge, enlarged our Clubhouse, and completed several other large projects over the years.

Please don't sit by and watch this happen. Become a part of it, and when it's complete, be able to look at it proudly and say that you were part of helping to make it happen. ***

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WORK CONTINUES OVER THE WINTER

The winter has not been dormant at ALS. Thanks to a lot of work by Don Buesing, the final coat of paint has been applied to the interior walls of the Great Room in the Clubhouse. Thank you Don! Thanks also go out to Ray Dwyer, and Rich Dean for furnace and electrical work as well as father and son combination Lance and Brett Sherman for applying the trim around the doors. There were also a few others who helped with several other projects. We thank you.

Don has a request for those who work in the Clubhouse over the coming weeks: **PLEASE DO NOT LEAN ANYTHING ON THE WALLS!!!** This will rub, scratch, and otherwise deteriorate the paint job.

Beginning now, as you read this, Saturdays are work days. We must clean the Great Room and get it ready for the coming season. Please come on out and spend a few hours. ***

Adirondack Live Steamers
c/o Jeane Lutz
76 John Street
Carteret, NJ 07008-3112

First Class

NOTE PAD

April 8 – Membership Meeting
April 23 – First Official Run Day
May 13 – Membership Meeting
May 20 – Membership Day
June 10, 11, 12 – Spring Meet
July 9 – Family Day I
July 16 – Prototype Run Day I
August 13 – Family Day II
August 20 – Prototype Run Day II
Sept. 8, 9, 10 – Fall Meet
Oct. 14, 15 – Blowdown

**Help
Needed on
Saturdays
Or any Day**