

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

DECEMBER 2007

MEET YOUR NEW OFFICERS

As a result of the vote taken at the November Membership Meeting, ALS has new officers for the coming year. Since there was only one person nominated for each of the offices, the Recording Secretary, Llyn Rice, was asked to cast one ballot for the slate. Our new officers are as follows:

President: Don Buesing
Vice President: Dick Hosmer
Treasurer: Glenn Freedman
Recording Secretary: Llyn Rice
Membership Secretary: Richard Dean
Director 2008-2009: Ted Wilming

Rounding out the Board of Directors will be Skip Densing who will finish his two-year term of 2007-2008. Since Richard Dean was elected as Membership Secretary, the position of Past President on the Board will be vacant for this year.

We certainly want to thank the outgoing officers for their work in running the club for the past year, and wish the very best to each of our members who have expressed willingness to serve as officers for the coming year. ***

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NEXT ISSUE WILL BE FEBRUARY/MARCH

The next issue of *Whistles in the Woods* will be published in February 2008. However the ALS season never ends. We hope to see you at the Albany Train Show in December, at a work party during the winter at the club, and on February 3rd at our Winter Banquet. We hope every one of our members has a happy holiday season.

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Next Meeting: Saturday, March 8, 12 Noon

Greenwich Public Library

(See article on page 6 for directions)

Deadline for February/March *Whistles in the Woods*:

Saturday, January 12

Other Important Dates: See Last Page

President's Corner

Hi, I'm Don. Maybe some of you know me. I'm your President for 2008. I can't think of anything "worthy" to say, so that's it for now.

What is worthy though is the huge THANK YOU we all owe Richard Dean and Jeane Lutz. Richard was our leader through the most trying times this club has ever endured. Through Richard's efforts we managed to keep the trains at ALS moving and the camaraderie alive. I'm not sure all of our members understand how close we came to shutting the gate. Maybe not for good, but shutting it none the less. Because of Richard's searches from agency to agency and broker to broker, we managed to find that one single insurance company that was willing to take us on. Yes, that's right; just one insurance company offered us a policy. The battle isn't over yet as we'll continue looking and finding our way through this live steam club nightmare. So the next time you take it for granted that ALS is still here and you can drive through the gates...remember to say thanks to Richard.

Huge THANK YOU number two goes to Jeane Lutz. For the past several years Jeane has managed to maintain order where order is impossible. As we had to change our membership classes to include families for insurance purposes, Jeane had to try to keep up. Just as a 'this' meet or 'that' meet would roll around, it was Jean's job to keep track of all the new members who were signing up just days before the event. AND keep the list updated so a new member's name could be found upon arrival. I don't know how it all worked, but it did. Thank you Jeane!

This year's BOD is one member short. It will stay that way until next year. The reason is because Skip Densing had one heck of a time finding nominees to fill the positions on the board. So some shuffling had to be done. Richard Dean agreed to fill Jeane Lutz's old position as Membership Secretary. Now it would seem Dick Hosmer would continue as the Past President, but he stepped up to fill the VP position. According to the bylaws, if the Past President is unable or unwilling to serve his term it will go unfilled. I heard a few comments about serving on the Board, and I have to say I was not pleased, although I do understand. With the accident last year, it seems the officers can be held responsible unless they are a separate entity from the club. Some of our members would consider serving on the Board, but they can't afford the risk. I will be looking into how we can isolate the BOD from any future legal action that may be brought against the club. I know other clubs do this, but I'm not sure how it works in New York State. I will find out.

In the meantime, PLEASE REMEMBER...ABSOLUTELY NOTHING is more important than safety at ALS. If you see something unsafe...say something! Safety is everyone's responsibility!

See you at the banquet in February and the kickoff meeting in March!

Don Buesing, President

2008 CALENDAR

Following is the Adirondack Live Steamers' Calendar for 2008. Why not put these dates on your calendar now and make plans to join us for as many activities as possible.

Sunday, February 3 - Noon

Banquet at VFW Hall in Saratoga Springs
(See article on p. 5)

Saturday, March 8 – 1:00 PM

Membership Meeting at Saratoga Springs
Public Library

Saturday, April 12 – 1:00 PM

Membership Meeting in the Club House

Saturday, May 10 – 1:00 PM

Membership Meeting in the Club House

Saturday, May 17

New Members Day

Thursday, May 12 – 7:30 PM

Organizational Meeting for Meet

Friday-Sunday, June 13-15

Spring Meet

Saturday, July 12 – 1:00 PM

Membership Meeting in the Club House

Sunday, July 13

Family Day I

Saturday, July 19

Prototype Operation Day I

Saturday, August 9 – 1:00 PM

Membership Meeting in the Club House

Sunday, August 10

Family Day II

Saturday, August 23

Prototype Operation Day II

Thursday, September 4 – 7:30 PM

Organizational Meeting for Meet

Friday-Sunday, September 5-7

Fall Meet

Saturday, October 11 – 1:00 PM

Membership Meeting in the Club House

Saturday and Sunday, October 18-19

Blowdown

Sunday, November 8 – 1:00 PM

Annual Meeting (Election of Officers)

Sunday, December 7

Albany Train Show (Tentative)

Whistles in the Woods
NEWSLETTER OF THE
ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS
CLUB TELEPHONE
(518) 583-2580

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Don Buesing

Phone: (518) 587-3172

E-Mail: don@adironacklivesteamers.org

Vice President: Dick Hosmer

Phone: (518) 235-0771

E-Mail: dick@adironacklivesteamers.org

Recording Secretary: Llyn Rice

Phone: (802) 462-2719

E-Mail: llyn@adironacklivesteamers.org

Treasurer: Glenn Freedman

Phone: (518) 877-6274

E-Mail: glenn@adironacklivesteamers.org

Membership Secretary: Richard Dean

Phone: (518) 656-9091

E-Mail: rich@adironacklivesteamers.org

Director 2008: Skip Densing

Phone: (518) 663-5507

E-Mail: skip@adironacklivesteamers.org

Director 2009: Ted Wilming

Phone: (518) 654-7108

E-Mail: ted@adironacklivesteamers.org

Past President: Vacant

NEWSLETTER

Whistles in the Woods
STAFF

Editor: Ken Nelson

Phone: (518) 377-7176

E-Mail: pocovalley@msn.com

Publisher: Pete Petrillose

Columnists: Don Buesing, Rich Dean,
and Llyn Rice

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

WEB PAGE

Webmaster: Bill Eckert

Phone: (802) 226-7618

E-Mail: bill@adironacklivesteamers.org

Website:

Adironacklivesteamers.org

MEMBERSHIP

Anyone interested in joining the ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS should contact Rich Dean, Membership Secretary.

Phone: (518) 656-9091

E-mail: IsomLocoWorks@adelphia.net

November Minutes

President Richard Dean called the meeting to order at 1:19 PM

Llyn Rice, Recording Secretary, read the minutes of the previous meeting and the membership voted to accept them with one correction.

Jeane Lutz, Membership Secretary, was not able to attend and there were no new member applications to be considered.

Glenn Freedman, Treasurer, gave his report which was accepted.

Ken Nelson, Education Committee Chair, asked the membership for suggested names of people who could present railway-related instruction programs. In particular, he is looking for somebody to teach boiler maintenance and safety.

OLD BUSINESS

Richard Dean described his search for an alternate insurer who would provide us with better terms and conditions. So far, no firm has offered a more favorable policy.

The membership defeated a motion to reverse our earlier decision to take part in the Albany Train Show by a 10-4 vote. Dick Hosmer will continue to take the lead in organizing the ALS display.

The membership considered the motion, tabled from the last meeting, to ban motor home parking from the immediate clubhouse area during the Spring and Fall Meets. After some discussion, Mark Landgraf agreed to change his motion so that it would ban motor home parking from the immediate clubhouse area during the Spring and Fall Meets unless the Board of Directors gives special permission. The membership voted approval of the modified motion.

It turns out that a plow-equipped truck which ALS already owns can be repaired economically. Don Buesing said that he would be available to operate that truck to plow out the club this winter. Since the club will be keeping the Chevrolet truck, the membership voted to rescind last month's decision to dispose of it.

Richard Dean reviewed the plans to begin work on the new track right-of-way out of the station on the weekend of 17/18 November. Bill Banta and his son will be coming to the property with a bulldozer and start shaping the right of way. Skip Densing has already felled many of the trees which were in the right-of-way and a large chipper will be on hand to clean up the tree-clearing debris. The membership voted to give Bill Banta \$200 toward his lodging costs during the weekend.

Skip Densing said that he is still working on finding a lockable drop box to safely store donations and gifts until the Treasurer can periodically pick them up.

Experimentation has shown that the stains on the clubhouse great room ceiling are just on the surface and can be washed off with the proper cleaning agent. Over the winter, we will leave the heat running at its lowest setting and keep the circulating fans running. We will also put an additional heating system vent at the very end where the stains are worst. Next summer, we will put vents in the peaks of the end walls so as to keep air moving through during the warmer weather.

(Continued on page 5) See Minutes

Minutes (Continued from page 4)

NEW BUSINESS

The membership voted to apply \$1,000 in club funds to the boiler replacement fund for the club steam engine, Woodstock #2. Ray Dwyer said that this means that the total available funds may be enough to order the new boiler.

Because the primary air compressor has been working very hard and the secondary, back-up compressor is not available because its motor has failed, the membership authorized the purchase of a replacement motor for the back-up compressor.

The membership discussed plans briefly regarding the 25th Anniversary Celebration without reaching conclusions. Don Buesing said that he would be responsible for coordinating proposed plans for the celebration.

Because there were no contested positions, the membership voted to have the Recording Secretary cast one ballot for the slate of officers and directors for 2008:

President:	Don Buesing	Recording Secretary:	Llyn Rice
Vice President:	Dick Hosmer	Treasurer:	Glenn Freedman
Membership Secretary:	Richard Dean	Director:	Ted Wilming

Director Skip Densing has a year left on his term and did not stand for election this year.

The club has received a Case loader as a gift. Richard Dean will transport it to the property and the membership voted to reimburse Richard for his fuel costs to make the move.

Richard Dean started an effort to lay out the 2008 program calendar, but discovered that we lacked information to complete it. By consensus, the membership left it to the Board of Directors to complete the calendar at its next meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 2:42 PM

Llyn Rice, Recording Secretary

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THE GREAT TRAIN EXTRAVAGANZA

Ken Nelson and Dick Hosmer

The 2008 Great Train Extravaganza, better known as the Albany Train Show, will be held at the Empire State Plaza in Albany, NY on Sunday, December 2.

There will be several layout modules in various gauges, as well as local hobbyists demonstrating their talents. In addition, there will be many dealers and vendors offering varied hobby

merchandise, both new and used, as well as our own ALS members demonstrating both 7¹/₄" and Gauge One models. This presents a great opportunity for our club to make itself known to others in the area. Come on out, bring a friend, perhaps a potential new member, and say "Hi." If you can help, contact Dick Hosmer at (518) 235-0771. ***

ANNUAL WINTER BANQUET

Pete Petrillose

Each year, ALS offers our annual Winter Banquet, offering each of us an opportunity to join together to see our live steam friends, talk about our latest projects, have a great time with some fine people, and most of all, enjoy some good food.

This year's banquet will be our tenth, and the date and location for our 2008 winter event has been set for Sunday, February 3 at the VFW Hall in Saratoga Springs, the same location as in past years. The doors will open at noon, with dinner being served at 1:00 PM. Entrée choices will be Roast Beef, Baked Chicken, or Baked fish, each served with a baked potato, steamed vegetables, tossed salad, rolls, and apple crisp a la mode for dessert. Coffee and soda will be included with the meal, and a cash bar will be available. The price for all of this is just \$13 per person.

If you wish, we invite you to bring along one or more door prizes, but this is not required. Please wrap each door

prize separately, and please do not bring junk.

Entertainment is welcome. If you would like to provide music, photos, movies, videos, etc., please contact me (Pete) ahead of time so it can be scheduled in. My phone number is (518) 399-4868.

Those planning to attend must send in their money to Pete Petrillose **no later than Saturday, January 19, 2008**. My address is:

41 Goode Street
Burnt Hills, NY 12027

Anyone may attend the event, but please let us be fair with the cooks. If your money isn't in by the above date, you may not get any food.

A letter of reminder will be sent to each member in early January, but money may be sent at any time between now and January 19. Plan now to attend, bring your other half, family, and friends, and catch up with what is going on with the club and your fellow members. ***

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MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Don Buesing

At last I have located a place to have our March Membership Meeting. It was not easy.

Our meeting will be held on March 8, at the Greenwich Public Library which is at 148 Main St., Greenwich, NY. **It will begin at 12 Noon.** We have the Community Room from 11:30 AM to "whenever." The library closes at 1 PM on Saturdays, but they will allow us to stay until we have

completed our business. We will have full access to the bathrooms, etc.

For those who may not know where the library is, directions **from ALS** follow:

- Right on Loudon Rd to STOP sign
- Left on Rt. 29 east
- Rt. 29 east through Schuylerville to Greenwich
- Just before the business district the library will be on the right. ***

THIS WEB SITE MAY INTEREST YOU

Ken Nelson

I recently was told of a web site which is new to me, and which I found to be very interesting. The more time I spent with it, the more I felt that other railfans may want to visit it if they didn't already know about it. The web site is:

www.trainweb.com/depotinn

Now trainweb.com is not a new site. It has been around for over ten years. But the Depot Inn & Suites is a hotel which has been in existence for only about a year. It is railroad related, and while I have never personally stayed there, it

does look interesting. Even more interesting is the area around it.

This web site is worth your visit, and if you are planning an Amtrak trip to the mid west in the future, you may want to include a stop in La Plata, Missouri. There are several links on the site which tell of the railroad activities in the area, along with some great photos of trains in action.

You can spend quite a while on this site. I hope you enjoy it. ***

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CAN YOU SPARE A DAY OR TWO TO HELP THIS WINTER?

Yes I know, the trains have been put away. There will soon be snow on the ground, and it is really cold outside.

But the clubhouse now has heat, and if we can build a substantial number of track panels this winter, inside where it is warm, we will be ahead of the game in the spring when we can work outside again. We did this last winter, and it made the finishing of DeSantis Divide go much faster. We will go through a LOT of track as we construct the new service trackage.

Ties have been cut and stacked. Some are inside the clubhouse, and others are just outside the door. Rail will be brought inside and the jig which we use to build the panels will be available. It takes between 30 and 45 minutes to build a track panel. Three or

four people can work together, producing a great opportunity to get to know each other.

If you can come out on one or two Saturdays during the winter months, it will be a great help. Mark Landgraf (518) 456-7614 and Ken Nelson (518) 377-7176 will be there some Saturdays. Call first so that you can be certain not to be the only one that shows up. If possible, bring a hand drill, either corded or cordless. Either will work since we will be working next to an outlet. You might also want to bring a friend. If you have never done this, you can learn in about five minutes.

Give it some serious thought. Don't leave the building of track panels to just two or three people. Don't you have at least one free Saturday this winter? ***

Happy Holidays

Adirondack Live Steamers
c/o Peter Petrillose
41 Goode Street
Burnt Hills, NY 12027

First Class

NOTE PAD

December 2 – Albany Train Show
February 3 – Winter Banquet
See page 3 for 2008 ALS Calendar
All Winter – Track panel building

Have a
Happy
Holiday
Season