

# Whistles in the Woods

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*Published by Adirondack Live Steamers*

OPERATING 6500 FEET OF TRACK IN THE FOOTHILLS OF THE ADIRONDACKS

7 ¼" GAUGE 1 ½" SCALE

OPERATING GAUGE 1 TRACKAGE FOR STEAM AND ELECTRIC

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SAFETY FIRST

JUNE 2007

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## 2007 Spring Meet

As this is written, I'm wondering how our spring meet will turn out in two weeks. Will it be 'business as usual' or will we see light attendance?

The mandated changes imposed by our new insurance carrier have had a huge effect on everything we do regarding running trains. For the past twenty odd years ALS has operated with the provision that visitors can ride trains. Now they can't. Only members can ride or operate the trains. With each meeting we find more and more details in our bylaws, rules and policies that no longer make sense and must be changed or amended.

During the May meeting a comment was made that caused everyone to pause for a moment or two while the point of the remark settled in. Since our very first meet in 1988 ALS has maintained an unwritten policy that, as a courtesy, we ask our 'local' members to refrain from running unless the passenger demand warrants. This keeps the traffic volume down so our visitors can enjoy the track even more. It was pointed out that since the only persons who may operate on the track ARE members, it stands to reason that NO ONE will be permitted to run during the meet! This point was well taken and we all had a good laugh. It was good timing for a laugh too, we needed one by then

But the fact remains that we "locals" should still keep ourselves busy with the hosting responsibilities and not the running. Since I expect this meet to not be a busy one in the passenger hauling department I'd like us to maintain our 'visitor's only operating policy'. If traffic becomes light, such as in the evening or Sunday afternoon, we can reconsider. But it should be a club decision, not an individual decision. Please comply.

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### **Spring Meet Duty Rosters**

There is still plenty of room on the meet duty rosters. If you have an extra hour or so, and we all know you do, then plan to volunteer in the kitchen or the registration shack. Perhaps an hour each?... Per day? I don't think that's too much to ask. Check with Beth in the kitchen or Ted at the shack. You will surely put a smile on their faces...guaranteed...as they sign you up.

### **Membership Secretary Report.**

The new membership rules regarding family memberships etc has placed an extraordinary large work load squarely upon the shoulders of our Membership Secretary, Jeane Lutz. Since Jeane's duties more importantly require her to also prepare an accurate and up to date roster of members for reference at the registration shack during the upcoming meet we'll have to wait until next month for her report.

# President's Corner

Richard Dean, President  
June 2007

Here it is June already. Although time is moving on, seeming quick, for 2007, a lot has been accomplished at Adirondack Live Steamers this year. On Saturday, May 5<sup>th</sup>, there were a goodly number of members that spent all day cleaning the grounds and generally making things look pleasant after a long winter's dumping of branches and pine needles. And, on the 12<sup>th</sup>, there were more members cleaning arranging and generally "opening for the summer". It's wonderful to see so much accomplished. Thank you all for your efforts.

DeSantis Divide is shaping up! With the efforts of many members, some from as far away as Vermont and Yonkers, the new road bridge has been wire brushed, primed and painted. Lance Sherman spent a long afternoon welding the beams together, Nancy and Bill Eckert painted, Mark Landgraf wire brushed, Chuck Curry painted, and Fred Eisner lifted and generally helped out. While the bridge was being built, there was a lot going on below the bridge. There were track crews (Dick Hosmer) assembling track panels, installing new turnouts, and huge amounts of ballast dumped and tamped on the Adirondack Branch and the new main line. John Camerota, Don Buesing, and others were there doing what track crews do. There were a couple of long Saturdays and a Sunday. I know I've missed someone, but ALS thanks everyone helping on this project.

I want to thank everyone for being patient with the new membership rules. The Board of Directors have worked hard to rethink the bylaws to make the transition from allowing visitors to ride and operate to a "members only" stance that is in line with the current insurance restrictions ALS is facing. The plan is to have special meetings to "vote in" members on Thursday, Friday, and on "an as needed basis" for the days before the 2007 Spring meet.

**Just remember that Non-members CANNOT operate or ride trains!**

Spring 2007 Meet. Please take the time to sign up for work times for the weekend. Don Buesing is the Meet director. He needs you to contact him with your time/duty requests. Do it now, the available time slots are narrowing down.

We at ALS are hoping for Good Weather, excellent food, wonderful camaraderie, and just a great time! Most important is SAFETY, SAFETY, SAFETY!!!!!! If you see something that doesn't look right, find a Board member and report it.

See you at the track... The Prez.

**ALS member Greg Vaughn has some Gauge 1 items for sale:**

Accucraft brass D&RGW C-16 for sale, #278 in factory black paint, electric powered, early production run and in excellent condition with very little time (and a little dust) on it. Includes the heavy steel Accucraft case and can be seen at the club by appointment. I'm asking \$1200.00. My phone # is 518-766-6617, email [gbv1154@earthlink.net](mailto:gbv1154@earthlink.net).

**Whistles in the Woods**  
NEWSLETTER OF THE  
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NEWSLETTER  
*Whistles in the Woods*  
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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.

# Llyn's Summary

## Recording Secretary's Report Llyn Rice

President Richard Dean called the meeting to order at 12:58 PM.

Ken Nelson, Education Committee Chair, reported that an educational session, scheduled for June, had been cancelled because of the new insurance limitations on visitors.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

**Crossing Shanty:** The slate for the roof is on hand and awaiting warm enough weather to install it.

**Book Donation:** The club will accept the donation of books from Mr. Fatherly's estate. Richard Dean will pick them up and store them pending completion of an on-site library.

**Bylaws Change:** The membership voted to approve the proposed bylaws changes which will update the department and committee definitions.

**Warning Signs:** Ted Wilming showed the new warning signs to the membership

### **NEW BUSINESS**

**Bruce Rauch's Storage Building:** Richard Dean read and explained the letter from Bruce which turns ownership and control of the building over to ALS. The Gauge #1 group will continue storing their club-owned equipment there.

**Train Operating and Riding Limitations:** Richard Dean gave a detailed explanation of the new insurance company's requirement that non-members not be allowed to operate or ride any train (either 7¼" or #1 gauge) on ALS property. After an exhaustive question and answer period, the Board proposed and the membership approved the following policy:

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**TRAIN OPERATING AND RIDING LIMITATIONS POLICY**

Only members of Adirondack Live Steamers shall be allowed to ride or operate trains. No other person shall be allowed to ride or operate trains at any time under any circumstance.

A member who knowingly allows a non-member to ride or operate trains shall have his/her operating privileges suspended immediately for 12 months. The Board of Directors, with input from the Safety Committee, shall be the final arbiter and may recommend expulsion per Article VI , Section 2 of the club bylaws.

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In order to reduce the impact on Regular Members' families, the Board will propose a change to the bylaws to make membership available to qualified family members at no extra cost. The Board will also propose a bylaws clarification on how to vote to expel a member should that ever be necessary.

During the May meeting the definition of Qualified Engineer, etc, was read. Here it is again for those who were not in attendance;

## DEFINITIONS

### Qualified Engineer

An ALS Qualified Engineer is one who has met the following criteria:

- Is at least 18 years of age
- Has passed the ALS safety quiz
- Has a waiver on file
- Has satisfactorily demonstrated both the safe operation of the locomotive, and an understanding of the ALS physical plant to the ALS designated pilot and the engine's owner if applicable.
- Agrees to follow all ALS Operating Rules.

**Novice Engineer** is defined as:

- Anyone **over** the age of 18 with a waiver on file and who, in the opinion of the Safety Committee and/or the Board of Directors, does not yet fully meet all ALS Qualified Engineer criteria and therefore may not "haul riders"
- Anyone **under** the age of 18 with a waiver on file and who would otherwise meet all of the Qualified Engineer standards and therefore may not "haul riders" without supervision. A Novice Engineer under the age of 18 may "haul riders" only when accompanied by a supervising Qualified Engineer who has notified an ALS BOD member that he has assumed responsibility of the train's operation

### Hauling Riders

For ALS purposes, the term "hauling riders" is defined as giving rides to ALS members who are not the engineer's immediate family or personally invited guests. Only Qualified Engineer's may haul riders.

### Rider

The term "rider" is used at ALS to describe any ALS member aboard a train other than the engineer or operating crew such as a flagman.

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

**First Class**

**NOTE PAD**

**June 7-10 – Spring Meet**

**July 8 – Family Day I**

**July 14 – Membership Meeting**

**July 18–Prototype Operation Day I**

**Every Saturday – Work Day**

**Spring Meet**

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**Your Help  
Is Needed**