

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

MAY 2007

INSURANCE ISSUE SETTLED

The April Membership Meeting was full of information for all members. If you missed it, BE SURE to read the summary of the minutes elsewhere in this issue.

One of the "hot" items discussed was the issue of our insurance. The good news is that we now have liability insurance. But there are several things that must be followed by EVERY member of the club in order for us to keep our insurance.

First and foremost is that from this point forward, NO NON-MEMBERS MAY RIDE TRAINS AT ANY TIME UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES on ALS grounds. This is a drastic change from past years, and MUST BE ADHERED TO by every member. While friends may be invited to see our grounds, they may not ride a train. This

will greatly effect our Spring and Fall Meet, our Education Days, and our past habit of inviting friends and relatives to our club. Members of other live steam clubs must be at least an Associate member of ALS in order to be able to operate any train on our property, and their family and friends must be a member of ALS in order to ride.

Our next insurance claim will no doubt be our last, and could well produce dire circumstances for our very existence as a club.

Be aware that these new requirements are not just more rules dreamed up by our Board of Directors, but have come from the insurance company itself. If we do not follow them to the letter, we may have to close down as an organization.

Be sure to read the summary of the minutes found on pages 4 and 5. ***

* * * * *

**Next Meeting: Saturday, May 12, 1:00 PM
Club House**

**Deadline for June *Whistles in the Woods*: Saturday, May 19
Submit ALL information to Don Buesing (See article on p. 6)**

Other Important Dates: See Last Page

President's Corner

Richard Dean, President

It's time to dust off the locomotive, soak the ejector in vinegar, hydro the boiler, and load it into the truck to get it to the engine house. Yes, it's spring time. There always seems to be a massive amount of chores to do to bring the equipment back up to snuff. It doesn't end with my trains either. There is much to do to spring clean up the ALS grounds. We had a tough winter and the pine needles, branches and downed trees around the track have littered the ground. Clean up day is scheduled for May 5th. We need many hands to make light work of this effort, so please take the time to attend and help.

As you read this news letter, you will see that there are a lot of changes at ALS. With the new insurance company requirements, the visitation rules are being changed. The "need to know who" is on the property at all times, is now a necessity for every member. We, as the members, have to protect our club. This means that if you are on club property, it is "your" obligation to keep track of any non members that may wander in. This will be done with name tags as a start. There will be colored name tags in the station and in the ticket booth. Please take the time to police the name tag requirement and make sure you and everyone around you has their tag on. (*See April Whistles for complete details. Ed.*)

The next issue pertaining to non members is riding on the trains. The liability insurance policy that ALS has in effect this year>>>>>DOES NOT ALLOW ANY NON MEMBER TO RIDE TRAINS!!!!!! NO EXCEPTIONS!!!!!! This rule is in effect for both 7¼" and G scale. We are allowed to bring interested people to visit as long as they don't ride the trains. If you are planning to attend our Spring Meet and want to run your train you need to be a member. Please read other notices in the newsletter about becoming a member.

I believe I can speak for all of the ALS members in saying, "We are moving ahead, we are growing, we are changing with the times, and we will always stay on the track." I want to thank all of the board members and members for their help in making the necessary changes to keep ALS a place for train enthusiasts to come and enjoy.

See you at the Track.

The Prez,

Richard Dean

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

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- President:** Richard Dean
Phone: (518) 656-9091
E-Mail: rich@adirondacklivesteamers.org
- Vice President:** Don Buesing
Phone: (518) 587-3172
E-Mail: don@adirondacklivesteamers.org
- Recording Secretary:** Llyn Rice
Phone: (802) 462-2719
E-Mail: llyn@adirondacklivesteamers.org
- Treasurer:** Glenn Freedman
Phone: (518) 877-6274
E-Mail: glenn@adirondacklivesteamers.org
- Membership Secretary:** Jeane Lutz
Phone: (732) 541-6614
E-Mail: jean@adirondacklivesteamers.org
- Director 2007:** Ted Wilming
Phone: (518) 654-7108
E-Mail: ted@adirondacklivesteamers.org
- Director 2008:** Skip Densing
Phone: (518) 663-5507
E-Mail: skip@adirondacklivesteamers.org
- Past President:** Dick Hosmer
Phone: (518) 235-0771
E-mail: dick@adirondacklivesteamers.org

NEWSLETTER

Whistles in the Woods
STAFF

- Editor:** Ken Nelson
Phone: (518) 377-7176
E-Mail: pocovalley@msn.com
- Publisher:** Pete Petrillose
- Columnists:** Rich Dean, Jeane Lutz, and Llyn Rice

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

WEB PAGE

- Webmaster:** Bill Eckert
Phone: (802) 226-7618
E-Mail: bill@adirondacklivesteamers.org
- Website:**
Adirondacklivesteamers.org

MEMBERSHIP

Anyone interested in joining the ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS should contact Jeane Lutz, Membership Secretary.
Phone: (732) 541-6614
E-mail: JEANEL76@MINDSPRING.COM

**EDUCATION DAY
CANCELLED**

Ken Nelson

An Education Day that had been scheduled for the Greenwich Cub Scouts in June has been cancelled due to our insurance problem. There wasn't time to keep the Scouts waiting, and not knowing if we would be able to get insurance in order to have the day for them.

We hope that Education Days will continue to happen, but we will no longer be able to provide rides to our guests. We have thought of having these affairs "off campus," but this is not really practical since it would involve carrying locomotives and cars to another site. If you know of a group that would be interested in learning about locomotives, rolling stock, the right of way, and railroad safety issues, please let Ken Nelson know. We are also able to help scouts in obtaining the Railroad Merit Badge. ***

* * * * *

SPRING MEET

The Spring Meet continues to get closer and it is now time for every member who has not yet called Chairman Don Buesing to do so now and to offer your help. With our new insurance requirements, several items will change. The Registration Booth will become even more important than before. There is a job for every member young and old, strong and weak. Kitchen, Clean Up, and several other such areas remain yet to be filled. Don't wait for Don to call you. Call him today at 518-587-3172 before you forget. ***

Llyn's Summary

Recording Secretary's Report Llyn Rice

Editor's note: Due to Recording Secretary Llyn Rice being out of town this past several weeks, the following is a synopsis of the most important items discussed at the April Membership Meeting as recorded by your editor.

Ken Nelson

The meeting was called to order by President Rich Dean. The minutes of the March 2007 meeting were read and approved. Membership Secretary Jeane Lutz was ill and President Rich Dean gave her report. One new member was presented and was approved by the membership. Treasurer Glenn Freedman was unable to attend, and Rich presented his report which was approved by the membership. Ken Nelson reported that an Education Day that had been scheduled for June 2 for the Cub Scouts from Greenwich has been cancelled.

Under Old Business:

(1) Work continues on the DeSantis Divide Project. All turnouts and track panels have been completed, and now must be installed as soon as weather permits. The new ballast dump body must also be installed, including several new blocks for support. The new bridge over DeSantis will be worked on by the Membership in a work day to be held on May 12. The girders must be cut, wire brushed, and painted, and the wood planking installed.

(2) A work day has been scheduled for May 5 to clean up the property, but the Cub Scouts from Greenwich will not be in attendance.

(3) Insurance. Our buildings and property have been covered by a policy with Fireman's Fund Insurance. Liability insurance is now with the Northfield Insurance Group. Several new requirements have been instituted by the insurance company. Non members may be on the property, but no non members may ride trains at any time. Furthermore, members of other clubs must be at least an Associate member of our club in order to be able to operate or ride any train on our property. This includes Gauge 1.

(4) The National Model Railroad Association, which is having a convention in Albany in October of this year, had asked to include ALS in its schedule of visits to various railroads. Because of our new insurance requirements, the Membership voted to not invite the NMRA at this time. A church group from Scotia who had requested to have a picnic on ALS grounds in July was also turned down.

(5) The Bylaws changes regarding Committees and Departments, which were printed in the February-March issue of *Whistles in the Woods* were passed.

(Continued on page 5) See Minutes

Minutes (Continued from page 4)

(6) Several new metal signs have been printed and will be posted. One is a “Warning, No Trespassing” sign which will be installed at the entrance gate of the property, while two others are “Rules” signs, one of which will be posted at the ticket booth, and the other at the station siding.

Under New Business:

(1) Bruce Rauch has relinquished his rights to the Section House building which he constructed in Tanglefoot.

(2) The Board of Directors, in light of our new insurance requirements, worded a new policy which was passed by the Membership. It reads as follows:

Only members of ALS shall be allowed to ride or operate trains. No other person shall be allowed to ride or operate trains at any time under any circumstances.

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 the input from the safety committee shall be the final arbiter and may recommend expulsion per Article VI Section 2 of the club Bylaws.

(3) The Board of Directors also has suggested the following changes in our Bylaws. A vote of the membership will be taken on these two Articles during the May Membership Meeting.

(Ed. Note. For a complete wording of these Bylaw changes, please see article elsewhere in this issue.)

Article VI Section 2 (Expulsion)

Current wording

...a 2/3 vote of the regular members.

New wording

...a 2/3 vote of the Regular members present.

Article I Section 2C (Initiation Fees and Dues)

Current wording

Regular Initiation: \$50 Dues: \$125

Joint (2 Regular; Same household)

Initiation: \$100 Dues: \$200

Associate Initiation: 0 Dues: \$40

Junior Initiation: 0 Dues: \$15

New Wording

Regular Initiation: \$50 Dues: \$125

Regular (single member+balance of immediate family living together)

(Single member = Regular; Spouse = Associate; Children to Age 21 = Junior)

Initiation: \$50 Dues: \$125

Joint (two members living together)

(Two members = Regular)

Initiation: \$100 Dues: \$200

Associate Initiation: 0 Dues: \$40

Junior Initiation: 0 Dues: \$15

The meeting was adjourned.

JUNE NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

Ken Nelson

Since I will be out of town for part of the month of May, Don Buesing will edit the June issue of *Whistles in the Woods*. Please remember that the deadline for submitting information for the June issue is May 19.

Please e-mail, give, or send ALL information for the June issue to Don by that date. This includes columns, articles, classifieds, letters to the editor, digital photos, and anything else you intend to have published in the June issue. ***

* * * * *

VISITING OTHER CLUBS

Information courtesy of Don Buesing

Many members of ALS have found that visiting other clubs during the year not only allows them to see friends and equipment from different areas, but to see how various clubs solve the same problems that we face.

Following are the dates that we have at the present time. It is always best to call ahead to check the date, get directions, make camping reservations if necessary, and find out if they have any rules or regulations which you may need to know about before attending. Most, if not all of the clubs, have web sites, which will offer further information, often contain photos and track plans, and perhaps will list a contact person.

Spring Meets

Long Island LS – May 18-20

Pennsylvania LS – May 26-27

New Jersey LS – June 1-3

Adirondack LS – June 7-10

Pioneer Valley LS – June 16-17

Finger Lakes LS – June 22-24

Summer Meets

Long Island LS – July 20-21

Waushakum LS – August 24-26

Fall Meets

Pennsylvania LS – September 1-2

Adirondack LS – September 6-9

Pioneer Valley LS – September 14-16

Finger Lakes LS – September 21-23

Long Island LS – September 28-30

New Jersey LS – October 5-7

* * * * *

MEMBERSHIP IN ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS

With the new requirements instituted by our insurance company, many people may have questions concerning membership in ALS. If you are one who is wondering about what you must do to operate and/or ride at ALS, please read carefully the following article, especially the dues structure on page 9. Further information, including the membership form is available on line at [adirondacklivesteamers.org](http://www.adirondacklivesteamers.org). Click on "Membership" or to: <http://www.adirondacklivesteamers.org/PDF/ALSReleaseForm.pdf>.

BYLAWS CHANGES

Llyn Rice

Following is a copy of the proposed changes to our Bylaws, as proposed by the Board of Directors. Both of these changes will be put to a vote of the membership at the May Membership Meeting to be held on Saturday, May 12 at 1:00 PM.

Current Wording

ARTICLE I ... MEMBERS

SECTION 1 ... MEMBERSHIP

Membership in ALS, Inc. shall consist of the following classes:

- A. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP is open, but not restricted to, persons who own, construct, or seriously intend to construct live steam boilers and/or engines of any type and/or large scale non-steam railroad locomotives or equipment. All such persons living within the area served should apply as Regular members. All such persons who intend to operate such boilers, locomotives, or other equipment at ALS MUST apply as Regular members the first year they intend to operate. Regular members must be at least 18 years old.
- B. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP is open to persons 18 and over who have an interest in the live steam hobby, except as otherwise covered in this article. Any person otherwise meeting the qualifications for Regular membership, but residing outside the area served, may elect to apply for Associate membership. A person 16 years of age may apply for Associate membership if that person has been a Junior member for at least two years.
- C. JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP is open to persons of the age of 18 and under when sponsored by a Regular member or an Associate member, at least 18 years of age, who is

New Language

ARTICLE I ... MEMBERS

SECTION 1 ... MEMBERSHIP

Membership in ALS, Inc. shall consist of the following classes:

- A. REGULAR MEMBERSHIP is open, but not restricted to, persons who own, construct or seriously intend to construct live steam boilers and/or engines of any type and/or large scale non-steam railroad locomotives or equipment. All such persons living within the area served should apply as Regular members. All such persons who intend to operate such boilers, locomotives, or other equipment at ALS MUST apply as Regular members the first year they intend to operate. Regular members must be at least 18 years old. *A Regular member's spouse or domestic partner and any dependent children under 21 years old living with said member shall automatically be accorded Associate or Junior membership as appropriate upon request.*
 - B. ASSOCIATE MEMBERSHIP is open to persons 18 and over who have an interest in the live steam hobby, except as otherwise covered in this article. Any person otherwise meeting the qualifications for Regular membership, but residing outside the area served, may elect to apply for Associate membership. A person 16 years of age may apply for Associate membership if that person has been a Junior member for at least two years.
 - C. JUNIOR MEMBERSHIP is open to persons of the age of 18 and under when sponsored by a Regular member or an Associate member, at least 18 years of age, who is
- (Continued on p.8)*

directly related (parent, grandparent, aunt/uncle, brother/sister) to the Junior member. When at the ALS property, Junior members must be accompanied by their sponsor or an adult member who agrees to be responsible for him/her.

D. HONORARY MEMBERS may be elected by the Board of Directors for meritorious service to the live steam hobby, or to the purposes of ALS Inc. Honorary members shall pay no dues and have no voice in the operation of ALS, Inc.

E. Dues paid, Regular members only are eligible to vote and hold office. Applications for membership shall be submitted in writing on a form approved by the Board of Directors, together with the appropriate dues and initiation fee. Election shall be by vote of 2/3 of the voting members at a regular business meeting. New members will be issued membership cards and will be introduced at the next business meeting he/she attends. If the vote is negative, the applicant will be notified of the decision in writing.

SECTION 2 ... INITIATION FEE AND DUES

A. Initiation fee, if any, and dues for members shall be set by the Board of Directors with the approval of the Regular membership. Annual dues shall be payable January 1, and be considered to be in arrears after April 1. The Membership Secretary shall notify any delinquent member of his/her standing not later than May 1, requesting him/her to indicate whether he/she intends to continue as a member. If no reply is received by June 1, his/her name shall be given to the Board for its consideration.

B. Members indicating extenuating circumstances may, at the Board's direction, be granted an extended grace period.

directly related (parent, grandparent, aunt/uncle, brother/sister) to the Junior member. When at the ALS property, Junior members must be accompanied by their sponsor or an adult member who agrees to be responsible for him/her.

D. HONORARY MEMBERS may be elected by the Board of Directors for meritorious service to the live steam hobby, or to the purposes of ALS Inc. Honorary members shall pay no dues, and have no voice in the operation of ALS, Inc.

E. Dues paid, Regular members only are eligible to vote and hold office. Applications for membership shall be submitted in writing on a form approved by the Board of Directors, together with the appropriate dues and initiation fee. Election shall be by vote of 2/3 of the voting members at a regular business meeting. New members will be issued membership cards and will be introduced at the next business meeting he/she attends. If the vote is negative, the applicant will be notified of the decision in writing.

SECTION 2 ... INITIAN FEE AND DUES

A. Initiation fee, if any, and dues for members shall be set by the Board of Directors with the approval of the Regular membership. Annual dues shall be payable January 1, and be considered to be in arrears after April 1. The Membership Secretary shall notify any delinquent member of his/her standing not later than May 1, requesting him/her to indicate whether he/she intends to continue as a member. If no reply is received by June 1, his/her name shall be given to the Board for its consideration.

B. Members indicating extenuating circumstances may, at the Board's direction, be granted an extended grace period.

(Continued on p. 9)

C Dues and initiation fees shall be as follows:

<u>Membership Class</u>	<u>Initiation Fee</u>	<u>Annual Dues</u>
Regular	\$50.00	\$125.00
Associate	None	\$40.00
Junior	None	\$15.00
Joint*	\$50.00 each	\$200.00

*Joint membership is a special fee available to two Regular Members living in the same household.

D. All persons applying for Regular member status in ALS must pay the initiation fee for Regular members regardless of prior status and/or fees paid to ALS or other live steam clubs. Anyone who does not maintain continuous year-to-year status as a Regular member must also pay the current initiation fee when reinstated.

* * *

**ARTICLE VI ... GENERAL MATTERS
SECTION 2 ... EXPULSION**

A member may be expelled from ALS, Inc. for just cause upon a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Regular members. Such member shall be notified in writing of the result of such a vote and the reason for expulsion if so voted. Secret ballot will be used.

In each case in the right hand column of the above Bylaw changes, the wording change is indicated in *italics*. The vote will take place during the regular May Membership Meeting.

C. Dues and initiation fees shall be as follows.

<u>Membership Class</u>	<u>Initiation Fee</u>	<u>Annual Dues</u>
Regular	\$50.00	\$125.00
Associate	None	\$40.00
Junior	None	\$15.00
Joint*	\$50.00 each	\$200.00

*Joint membership is a special fee available to two Regular Members living in the same household *and otherwise conforms to the Regular Membership definition in Article I, Section 1, Sub-paragraph A.*

D. All persons applying for Regular member status in ALS must pay the initiation fee for Regular members regardless of prior status and/or fees paid to ALS or other live steam clubs. Anyone who does not maintain continuous year-to-year status as a Regular member must also pay the current initiation fee when reinstated.

* * *

**ARTICLE VI ... GENERAL MATTERS
SECTION 2 ... EXPULSION**

A member may be expelled from ALS, Inc. for just cause upon a two thirds (2/3) vote of the Regular members *present at a Regular Meeting of the membership*. Such member shall be notified in writing of the result of such a vote and the reason for expulsion if so voted. Secret ballot *shall* be used.

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

First Class

Spring is
here!

Your
help is
needed

NOTE PAD

May 5 – Membership Clean Up Day
9:00 AM

May 12 – Membership Work Day
to work on bridge 9:00 AM

May 12 – Membership Meeting
Clubhouse 1:00 PM

May 19 – Membership Day

June 7-10 – Spring Meet

Every Saturday – Work Day