

WHISTLES IN THE WOODS

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

SAFETY FIRST

MAY 2011

SPRING MEET IS COMING

Chuck Currey

It is not too soon to start thinking about where you may be able to help your club for the Spring Meet. Mark Landgraf (518-456-7614) and I (518-346-0067) are again chairing the event, and as always, we need everyone's help.

Several people have asked what is involved in various jobs at the Meet. "If I volunteer for a job, what will be my responsibilities?"

With that in mind, here is a brief run down of what has to be done. We hope that every member will volunteer to help for one to two hours during the weekend.

Registration – This is an important job, and is a good "sit-down" job for anyone in the club. Have each guest fill out a waiver form and make out a nametag. We run one-hour shifts on all four days of the Meet. Choose a time you would like and call me today.

Food (Kitchen) – Help in serving food items to our guests. We need cooks, servers, and cashiers. Friday (lunch and dinner), Saturday (breakfast, lunch, and dinner), and Sunday (breakfast and lunch).

Emporium – Help in selling ALS items Saturday and/or Sunday.

Lift Area – Help in moving guest's trains to and from their trailers and our tracks. Lift operators must be qualified, or may help someone who is. We need help on all four days of the weekend.

Gauge One – Help to operate Gauge One trains, and assist where needed. Generally we operate Friday and Saturday from about noon to 6:00 PM.

(Continued on page 6)

See **Spring Meet**

* * * * *

**Next Meeting: Saturday, May 14, 10:00 AM
Clubhouse**

Deadline for June *Whistles in the Woods*: Saturday, May 21

Other Important Dates: See Last Page

President's Corner

Hi everyone.

There is not much to say this month, except that things are coming up and we have to get ready for all of the things we do at the start of every season:

Check our engines and cars, test brakes, check wheels, horns, and bells. Then we have to check our track. It must be cleared of winter debris, leveled, and maybe even straightened. The depot needs to be swept, cleaned, re-stocked, and set up for meetings. We should also check the lifts, the transfer table, turntable, and turnouts just to name a few things. The picnic tables now leaning on the trees for the winter, must be brought back down to the ground and arranged. The area where they go needs to be raked and made ready for the summer. All of the water barrels must be filled before we begin operating our trains on the tracks. What are you going to cover?

Yes, as of the 9th of April, there is still snow around, but it is disappearing slowly. If you don't know what to do, call someone on the Board of Directors and/or just show up on any Saturday. Find a job you would like and join those doing that job. We need everyone's help. Let's all work in one direction, not two different ones.

Thanks for working together!

Skip,

President

NEWSLETTER OF THE
ADIRONDACK LIVE STEAMERS
CLUB TELEPHONE
(518) 583-2580

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Skip Denising

Phone: (518) 663-5507

E-Mail: skip@adironacklivesteamers.org

Vice President: Charlie Pellock

Phone: (518) 584-4492

E-Mail: charlie@adironacklivesteamers.org

Recording Secretary: Karl Pickles

Phone: (518) 587-5702

E-Mail: karl@adironacklivesteamers.org

Treasurer: Ben Maggi

Phone: (585) 506-2680

E-Mail: ben#@adironacklivesteamers.org

Membership Secretary: Richard Dean

Phone: (518) 656-9091

E-Mail: rich@adironacklivesteamers.org

Director 2011: Dick Hosmer

Phone: (518) 235-0771

E-Mail: dick@adironacklivesteamers.org

Director 2012: Ted Wilming

Phone: (518) 654-7108

E-Mail: ted@adironacklivesteamers.org

Past President: Don Buesing

Phone: (518) 567-3172

E-Mail: don@adironacklivesteamers.org

NEWSLETTER
Whistles in the Woods
 STAFF

Editor: Ken Nelson

Phone: (518) 377-7176

E-Mail: pocovalley@msn.com

Publisher: Pete Petrillose

Columnists: Skip Denising and Rich Dean

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@adironacklivesteamers.org

Website: adironacklivesteamers.org

MEMBERSHIP

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

Phone: (518) 656-9091

E-Mail: deanelect@roadrunner.com

OTHER CLUBS

Each year we print the major events of other live steam clubs that meet within a reasonable distance of ALS. If you are planning your spring, summer, and fall, you may want to visit one or more of them. These dates are the ones we have been given, but it is always a good idea to check the website of the club you plan to visit. Changes happen; some clubs welcome visitors, and some hold events only for their own members.

Perhaps the biggest event of this summer will be the New Jersey Live Steamers 50th Anniversary Meet at the end of September. This one requires advanced reservations. You might go on line to njlivesteamers.org for further information.

April 30-May 1 – Spring Steam Up
 Pioneer Valley Live Steamers

May 15 – Spring Steam Up
 Waushakum Live Steamers

May 20-22 – Spring Meet
 Long Island Live Steamers

May 21 – Steam Up
 Finger Lakes Live Steamers

May 27 – 29 – Spring Meet
 Pennsylvania Live Steamers

June 3-5 – Spring Meet
 New Jersey Live Steamers

June 17-19 – Spring Meet
 Pioneer Valley Live Steamers

June 24-26 – Spring Public Open House
 Finger Lakes Live Steamers

July 21-24 – 45th Anniversary Meet
 Long Island Live Steamers

August 26-28 – Annual Meet
 Waushakum Live Steamers

September 2-4 – Fall Meet
 Pennsylvania Live Steamers

September 16-18 – Fall Meet
 Pioneer Valley Live Steamers

September 23-25 – Fall Meet
 Long Island Live Steamers

September 23-25 – Fall Open House
 Finger Lakes Live Steamers

September 29-October 2 – 50th Anniversary
 New Jersey Live Steamers

Registration required by July 1

THESE WEB SITES MAY INTEREST YOU

Ken Nelson

The Pacific Southwest Railway Museum is located in Campo, California. While it is some distance away from New York, it has a very active web site that offers, among other things, a section of FAQ (frequently asked railroad questions) and some rather interesting railroad stories. In addition, you can find out about the museum's equipment roster, take a look

at their photo gallery, including videos, and take a tour around the museum. You'll find it at www.sdrm.org.

Don't forget that Amtrak's National Train Day for this year will be held on Saturday, May 7. More information is at www.nationaltrainday.com. If you can get to Washington DC, there is a lot going on. ***

* * * * *

Minutes

A Brief Summary of the Highlights of the April Membership Meeting

Following the Pledge to the Flag, President Skip Densing called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM

Recording Secretary Karl Pickles read the minutes of the March meeting. They were approved as read.

Membership Secretary Rich Dean reported that we now have approximately 125 members. Clifford Scott and his wife, of Covington Washington, were accepted as Associate Family members.

Treasurer Ben Maggi gave the Treasurer's Report. It was accepted as read.

Committee Reports:

- Good and Welfare – John Camerota was present at the meeting, and expressed thanks to all who sent him cards, visited him, and generally supported him during his recent surgery. He continues to improve.
- Communications – No report.
- Safety – No report.
- Clubhouse – Lance Sherman has been working on the trim. More has been accomplished.
Water will be turned on soon as the weather improves.
Please keep the heat on until further notice.
- Track – Skip Densing will order bolts for both regular and insulated rail joiners. Additional ballast will be ordered as soon as the weather improves.
The bad turnout at Marshall Hill Crossover will be repaired (new ties) immediately following the May Membership Meeting. We need at least six people to accomplish this. Please plan to stay and help.

(Continued on page 5) See **Minutes**

Minutes (Continued from page 4)

- Signals – Ken Nelson reported that insulated rail joiners (for use with signals) have been built and will be installed as the weather allows.
- Grounds – No Report. A new chairman is needed for Grounds. Please talk to Skip Densing to find out what is involved.
- Gauge #1 – Lance Sherman reported that plans are being made for the new year.
- Engine House – Ray Dwyer reported that usage fees are coming in slowly. Stalls will all be cleaned on Membership Day.
- Car Barn – No Report. Contact Myron Rapaport if you need space.
- Machine Shop – Power needs attention. Rich Dean will address the problem.

Old Business:

- Rich Dean has talked with Utopia Company concerning concrete sections for building the new tunnel. Each C-section is 60” tall, 54” wide, and 90” long. The tunnel would be approximately 60’ long. The company feels that they could get a truck into the area to deliver the sections during mid summer. The total cost would be in the neighborhood of \$6,600. Some people felt that the height of the tunnel at 5 feet might be a bit short. The tunnel committee will discuss the possibilities.

New Business:

- Spring Meet is nine weeks away (June 10-12). It is hoped that each member will give one to two hours of his/her service during the weekend. (Please see Spring Meet article elsewhere in this issue. *Ed.*)
- The First Reformed Church of Scotia has requested to use our grounds for a picnic on August 14th, with the 21st as a rain date. The date was accepted by the membership. Engineers will be needed to run trains and give rides.

The Meeting was adjourned at 11:05.

* * * * *

Notes From Rich

Two new members were accepted at the April Membership Meeting from the state of Washington.

Welcome to **Clifford Scott** and his wife **Teresa**, both of whom are joining as Associate Family members. They are friends of Don Buesing and visit this area each summer.

Our current membership is approximately 125 members, which puts us about on par with last year at this time.

Rich

Membership Secretary

Spring Meet (Continued from page 1)

Trash – Empty trash cans as necessary in the Clubhouse and on the grounds. Take trash to the dumpster.

Club House Cleanup – Sweep the floor, clean the rest rooms and kitchen, and help with clean up after dinner on Friday and/or Saturday.

Emergency Track Repairs – Help with derailments, and repairing track when and where necessary.

Safety – Be available to answer questions and help visitors to understand our rules.

Please pick one or more jobs you would be comfortable with and call me today. (See page one for my telephone number.) Attention retirees: We need help on Thursday and Friday. Those who call early are more likely to get the job they want. Please don't wait for me to call you. ***

* * * * *

Safety Tip

Ted Wilming and Ken Nelson

Last month we reviewed hand signals. This month, let's take another look at whistle or horn signals for those who are engineers. A long line (_____) refers to a long blast on the whistle while a zero (0) indicates a short sound.

Signal

_____ 0 _____

Meaning

Grade crossing. We have several on our railroad. The one at Tanglefoot, the one on the road from the Club House to the Car Barn, and the one at the entrance next to the crossing shanty are all busy. Please let us know you are coming. In each case, the crossing has a post with a "W" on it. These are not there for decoration. Please blow!

_____ _____

The train is about to proceed in a forward direction. This warns everyone in the vicinity that they should get out of your way. It also lets any passengers you may have know that you are about to move. (Note: Your conductor should also give you this signal with his whistle to let you know that all of your passengers are seated and ready to proceed.)

0 0 0

The train is about to move in a reverse direction or back up. Your conductor should let you know by a hand signal or his whistle that a back-up move is safe.

The brakes are set, and it is safe for your passengers to get up to leave the train. Your conductor may also use this signal to indicate that there is a problem such as a derailment or someone on the train moving about in an unsafe manner. In such case, the engineer should stop immediately. ***

ENGINEER'S TEST

Ted Wilming

This is a reminder to all who plan to operate at ALS this summer, that everyone (both members and visitors) must take an Engineer's Test every three years. In other words, if you took your last test in 2009 or later, you are all set for this year. If your last test was before 2009, you are due. Regardless, some engineers like to take the test every year just to keep current.

We know that some of you have been operating locomotives for many years, and are very comfortable doing so. This quiz is not about running a locomotive. It deals with our railroad and its idiosyncrasies. Safety is a major concern of ours.

If you are in need of the test, you have several options. It will be given on

May 21 (Membership Day), and if you are there you can take it then. Or, you may take the test at the Spring Meet when you arrive. Or, you will find the test printed for you on line at adirondacklivesteamers.org. Click on "Operational Rules." From there you can look at the rules, and/or take the quiz. It's an open-book quiz, so feel free to look at the rules while you are answering the questions. However, if you take it from our web page, **DO NOT SEND IT IN VIA THE WEB.** We continue to have a problem with that operation, and we will not get it. After taking the test (on line), print it and send it to me at Ted Wilming, PO Box 324, Corinth, NY 12822.

Good luck.

* * * * *

ENGINEHOUSE AND CAR BARN USAGE FEES DUE

Ray Dwyer and Myron Rapaport

Please don't forget to pay your 2011 Usage Fee for use of either the Engine House, the Car Barn, and/or the Container. All fees should be paid before we begin the season.

If you did not get a mailing for either, and are in need of storage space on ALS property for either your locomotive or your cars, please contact:

Enginehouse: Ray Dwyer
33 Academy Street
Greenwich, NY 12834

Car Barn: Myron Rapaport
16 Burnt Ridge Road
Lake George, NY 12845

We will be glad to help you find storage space.

* * * * *

TWO MORE LIVE STEAMERS GET HITCHED

Congratulations to two of our members who recently celebrated their marriage.

On Saturday, April 23, Dave French and Nancy LaMothe were married at the Clifton Park Community Church on Moe

Road in Clifton Park. A reception followed in Ballston Spa.

Rumors stated that they were planning a honeymoon in Pierson Yard, but we think those plans will change.

Best wishes to Nancy and Dave. ***

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

First Class

NOTE PAD

May 14 – Membership Meeting
10 AM – Clubhouse
May 21 – Membership Day
Engineer's Test
Clean Engine House
and Car Barn
June 10-12 – Spring Meet

TIME FOR FUN!
SEE YOU AT THE
TRACK.