

# 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

October 2009

## FALL MEET

The weather was pretty good, the turnout was very nice, and another ALS Fall Meet is history.

Again it was great to have a chance to host many of our friends from other clubs, as we all enjoyed some great fall weather. Several guests arrived as usual on Thursday to get in some early running, and by Friday, we had a pretty good crowd. As has become a tradition in all of our Meets for the past few years, we ran reverse direction, or eastbound, on Friday. Rather than change back in late afternoon, we continued running eastbound all day until midnight, and a little rain didn't stop many folks from having fun. On Saturday, several crews worked together to feature a steam powered triple-header, with the number of passengers running somewhere in the teens.

Everyone was pleased to see Hank Buesing present on Saturday, and he was able to get a ride. For those who may

not know Hank, he is Don's father, and the man who gave ALS the original acreage for our club.

Pete Petrillose and his crew did their usual fine job of providing our Friday evening dinner of Chicken Parmesan, while Don Buesing did it again with a great serving of Roast Beef on Saturday. Both of these gentlemen had a lot of help from many people, and we thank you all. Charlie Pellock spent most of the weekend handling money with the help of Glen Freedman, treasurer. Rich Dean, Lance Sherman, and Charlie took care of breakfast. A special thank you goes out to Nora Singer, who handled the cashier's job all weekend.

There isn't enough room to mention everyone who assisted, but we did notice, and we thank everyone who helped to make the Meet a success. We hope you were able to be present for at least part of the Meet, and to join in with the team of helpers. \*\*\*

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**Next Meeting: Saturday, October 10, 10:00 AM**

**In the Club House**

**Nomination of Officers**

**Deadline for November *Whistles in the Woods*: Saturday, October 17**

**Other Important Dates: See Last Page**

# President's Corner

Hi Everyone!

Well, we had our Fall Meet, even though only four people called about helping....

We had members cover all the chores and except for a little rain Saturday afternoon, the weather was great for steaming! We had a triple-header of STEAM! As a whole I believe the weekend was great.

Well the October Membership Meeting is NOMINATIONS! Are you happy with the present Board of Directors? Have you asked any of them if they are interested in running again? Do you think that someone else could do better? Have you asked that person if they are interested? I hope that I have made you feel that this is a family oriented club, and that you feel comfortable coming and enjoying *our place*. Did you get your ten visits to the club this year? More importantly, did you enjoy the time that you were here?

Two major items for this month are the roof over the containers and where we are with our tunnel and service area projects. Hopefully I'll get to move gasoline alley. Switch controls and signal lights will be my next area of effort. AND there is still cleaning needed in the garage and storage area behind the engine house.

Don't forget Blowdown Weekend, which is scheduled for October 17, and 18. Why not join us for one or both of the days?

Keep SAFE and enjoy. See you at the club.

Thanks,  
**Skip**, President

Whistles in the Woods  
NEWSLETTER OF THE  
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MEMBERSHIP

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

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## TIME TO THINK ABOUT YOUR CLUB'S FUTURE

No matter how much help or financial assistance an organization may get, that organization needs good leadership in order to survive. Now is the time for all of us as members of ALS to think about our current leadership people, and whom we think would do a good job of carrying our club into the future.

On October 10 at 10 AM, we will have our monthly Membership Meeting. It is at that meeting that all ALS members will have an opportunity to nominate someone for office.

One or more people must be nominated to run for each of the following offices for a one-year term:

President  
Vice President  
Recording Secretary  
Membership Secretary  
Treasurer

In addition, we must nominate one or more persons to run for the office of Director, which is a two-year term.

Charlie Pellock will serve a second year as Director, and he, along with the Past President will fill out the Board of Directors.

Only Regular Members may serve as officers, but any member may nominate a Regular Member for office. You must have a person's permission before nominating them.

At the end of the November Membership Meeting, an election will be held to elect our slate of officers for 2010.

Those with questions should contact Charlie Pellock, Director 2010, who is currently chairman of the nominating committee.

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# Safety Tip

Ted Wilming and Ken Nelson

One area of importance in understanding and practicing safety at the club is the operation of our turntable and hydraulic lifts. We have two lifts at ALS. One lift is next to the Tool Shed, and is used to load and unload equipment from trailers, vans, and other motor vehicles. The second one is at the far end of the Engine House, and is used by locomotives that are stored on the bottom deck of the House. In addition, we have a transfer table that is used to move locomotives from the Engine House to another area, and a turntable that is used for access to the steaming bays and the rest of the railroad.

Care in operating ALS hydraulic lifting devices and movable tables, or turntables is paramount. Only trained operators should operate the controls with particular attention to securing equipment prior to moving or lifting. “Trained” means that the operator has been checked out in the safe operation and is aware of the limitations of the equipment.

It is very important to keep children and pets out of the area where this equipment is in operation. This will help to prevent injury and/or distractions to the lift operators.

So our question for this month is: What are the proper techniques to use in safely operating a lift or table?

Answer:

In order to operate either of the lifts, the air compressor must be on. The switch for this is located in the room behind the Tool Shed. The actual controls for either of the lifts are located next to each of the lifts. Ask any regular member for directions on how these lifts operate. Do not try to operate either of them if you are not qualified. Both lifts are dangerous to the operator and can produce damage to equipment if not used properly.

The Transfer Table can be pushed or pulled using the handlebars on either side of the Table. If one is removing or replacing a locomotive from the Engine House, a connecting track must be used. These connectors may be found hanging on the side of the Table. Always be certain to center the locomotive or car

you are transferring, and keep a close watch on it while the Table is in motion, so as not to let it run off the end. When moving a piece of rolling stock on or off one of the steaming bays, be sure to lock the turntable in place with the connector which is painted red.

When turning a locomotive on the Turntable, again be sure that no one else is in the immediate area, especially children. Whenever possible, it is best for one person to do the turning. It is very easy for one person to push or pull the table into the path of another, thus causing a possible injury. Turn the table carefully, and be sure to insert the red connector or slide the yellow slide lock between the rails before moving the locomotive off the table.

See you next month.

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# Minutes

## A Brief Summary of the Highlights of the September Meeting

President Skip Densing called the meeting to order at 7:32 PM.

Four major topics were discussed:

- The last minute items concerned with organizing the Fall Meet.
- On Saturday, September 26, from 11 AM to 3:00 PM, the Hudson Berkshire Division will be visiting ALS for a picnic, and to see our railroad. Rides will be offered to our guests, and it is hoped that a majority of our members will be present. These are railroad people. The Division is part of the Northeast Region of the National Model Railroad Association. Several ALS members are also members of Hudson Berkshire.
- Three pallets of bricks will be ordered for the retaining walls that must be rebuilt and updated since their original construction several years ago. In addition, a wire mesh will be used to help prevent further erosion of the ground.
- A discussion was held regarding the possibility of logging a portion of our land in order to realize some profit. A vote was held, and the project was defeated.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:09 PM

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## BLOWDOWN

How are you doing with your attempt to attend ALS at least ten times this summer? Have you taken full advantage of your membership in your organization?

One of the last chances to attend is our annual Blowdown, when we all get together, along with some members of

other clubs, to run, ride, and enjoy our trains for one last time before putting them away for the winter.

This year's Blowdown will be held on the weekend of Saturday and Sunday, October 17 and 18. Let's all attend and have one last "hurrah" before the cold weather begins to creep in. \*\*\*

\* \* \* \* \*

## THANK YOU BEN

Ken Nelson

Please permit me a personal note in this issue. My wife and I just returned from a wonderful vacation to Maine and Canada. While we hated to miss our Fall Meet, this was our only chance to make the connections we wanted to make, so we had no choice.

I want to express my deepest appreciation to Ben Maggi for editing the September issue of *Whistles* in my absence. You did a fine job Ben, and the entire club thanks you. It is this kind of stepping up and taking charge that our club needs. \*\*\*

Adirondack Live Steamers  
C/o Pete Petrillose  
41 Goode Street  
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## **First Class**

### **NOTE PAD**

October 10 – Membership Meeting  
10 AM – Clubhouse  
Nomination of Officers  
October 17-18 – Blowdown  
November 14 – Membership Meeting  
10 AM – Clubhouse  
Election of Officers  
December 6 – Albany Train Show  
Wednesdays and Saturdays – Work  
Days  
Every Day – Run Day

## **Blowdown**

## **Why Not Join Us**