

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 2011

FALL MEET GOES VERY WELL

Ken Nelson

Our Fall Meet for 2011 was very successful in many ways. First, the weather was outstanding. After several days of rain in the beginning of the week, we were blessed with a suitable Thursday afternoon, and an outstanding and beautiful Friday, Saturday, and Sunday. Second, the number of members who were willing to help was gratifying. After making some 65-70 phone calls to local members, approximately 45-50 said, "Yes, I would be glad to help." This is what makes a successful organization. Third, the food was outstanding, as usual, thanks to the efforts of many people. We served approximately 30-35 Friday night dinners, and about 70 Saturday night meals. Fourth, the attendance was quite good, considering the recent hurricane,

with a large number of both live steamers and visitors (see page 6 for totals).

To my knowledge there were no injuries reported, several people applied for membership in ALS, and there was only one complaint brought to my attention all weekend.

I want to thank all of our members, as well as visitors, who offered their help as needed. All of our chair people did a magnificent job, and I want to express my gratitude to all of you who offered your help in any way.

On page 6, you will find a list of those who helped, along with a partial list of visitors who attended. When you see these people, thank them for helping to make your club and the Fall Meet successful. ***

* * * * *

Next Meeting: Saturday, October 8, 10:00 AM

Clubhouse

Nomination of Officers

Deadline for November *Whistles in the Woods*: Saturday, October 15

Other Important Dates: See Last Page

President's Corner

Hi Everyone,

Well, our Fall Meet is over; and from what I hear, we did pretty well. Our next and last “operating” event of the season is our Blowdown on October 15 and 16.

This month’s Membership Meeting includes our annual Nomination of Officers for next year. So make sure you have ideas for whom you would like to see run for each office. Remember that they have to be Regular members.

The three biggest goals I see for the next several months would be first, tie replacement as much as possible. Second would be getting the switch at Twin Trees, and the crossover under the road bridge powered along with the signals that go with them. *[For those who may not recognize the location, Twin Trees is where you enter DeSantis Interlocking. Ed.]* Third would be to reach a consensus on what we are going to do with our new tunnel. We have “talked” long enough. It is time to decide how we are going to make it so that we can do ground work and then get started.

So, how do you feel? Talk to me, or to any Board member and let us know how you feel? What are your opinions? Better yet, come to a Membership Meeting!

Skip,

President

NEWSLETTER OF THE
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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.

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MEMBERSHIP

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

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BLOWDOWN

Ken Nelson

All good things must come to an end, and that old saying certainly applies to our events at ALS. After a very nice Winter Banquet in March; a poorly attended Membership Day in May; a fairly successful Spring Meet in June; and two poorly attended Family Days in July and August, followed by two very successful Prototype Operation Days; we came to September and had a very successful Fall Meet.

The weekend of Saturday and Sunday, October 15 and 16, is the time when we all get together for our last official days of operation. Except for a few who try to sneak in one last day in cold temperatures toward the end of the month, this is our last hurrah for the season. Let's all try to end our year with a great turnout, as we hope for some beautiful October weather.

As of this writing, nothing is planned for dinner on Saturday evening. But we hope to see a majority of our membership on Saturday morning and afternoon, with some steam engines firing up, some diesels traveling around the track, and perhaps some electric powered locos showing their colors. As always, rides will be available for those who want them. And then we'll do it all over again on Sunday. We frequently have visitors from other clubs join us for one more trip around the ALS trackage.

Plan now to join us for our season's last gasp. ***

* * * * *

ALBANY TRAIN SHOW

It's not too early to begin thinking about your role in the upcoming Great Train Extravaganza or Albany Train Show in December. Talk to Ben or Sarah Maggi about what part you can play. We'll have more next month. ***

NOMINATION OF OFFICERS

Ken Nelson

This is YOUR club, so YOU are responsible to see that the club has good leaders. The two Membership Meetings in October and November are your chance to meet this responsibility.

On October 8, we will have our annual Nomination of Officers. At that time, we will nominate Regular members to run for the office of President, Vice President, Membership Secretary, Recording Secretary, and Treasurer, each for a one-year term. In addition we will nominate one or more Regular members to run for the office of Director, which is a two-year term.

ANY member, Regular or Associate, may nominate someone, but there are two requirements. The person nominated must be a Regular member, and he or she must give their consent to run.

Ted Wilming, who is serving his first

year of a two-year term as Director, will present a slate of one member for each of the above offices. At that time, nominations will be open to the floor. If you know of a member whom you think would be a good officer, speak with them, get their consent, and nominate them.

Your Board of Directors is made up of each of the above officers, plus one Director serving his second year of a two-year term, and the past President.

On November 12, we will have our annual election, based on the nominations made at the October meeting.

In many ways, these are the two most important Membership meetings of our entire year. Please give serious thought to who you would like to see serve on the Board of Directors, plan now to attend both meetings, and make your wishes known. ***

* * * * *

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Letters to the Editor

The Future of ALS (?)

I was able to visit ALS in July for the first time in two years. I was disappointed and disheartened by the lack of any significant progress on the expansion and the apparent lack of routine maintenance on any of the buildings. The Marshall Engine House is in desperate need of pressure washing and paint. One of the biggest donations ALS has ever received, Piasecki Bridge, has been in place about ten years and has yet to be painted. Why should anyone be so generous in the future if the organization is not going to take care of it? One bright spot was the exterior of the depot. It looked fresh and inviting. Another pleasant surprise was to find that the Library is being kept neat, well stocked, and organized.

There seems to be a sort of lethargy setting in. The spark and excitement that used to permeate everything we did is not in evidence. It appears that there are many members who are happy to use the railroad and all the facilities, but do very little to help build, maintain, and improve the railroad and those facilities. This is not a new problem. When I was President twenty years ago, we had similar problems. The difference is that back then we had a core of about fifteen or twenty really active members who were at the property every Saturday, and several who also worked other days. ALS was still building and growing at that time. There was a feeling of excitement and anticipation as we began new projects and an earnest desire to see the projects through to completion so that we could start the next project. That core of workers from twenty years ago is no longer available due to health problems, aging, death, or moving out of the area.

If you want to continue to enjoy the tremendous facility that has taken about thirty years to get to what it is today, how will you help ALS grow, build, and maintain its assets for the future?

Bruce Rauch
Past President, Secretary, Membership Secretary
Current Regular Member

* * * * *

Safety Tip

Ted Wilming and Ken Nelson

It was brought to our attention that our rules include a statement that riders on cars should not be holding children. This is to make sure that you have both hands free in the event of a derailment or spill. Conductors and engineers, please take note.

We would like to thank all of our visiting engineers at Fall Meet for helping to make the Meet accident free. We noticed that several engineers are beginning to use whistle signals to let those around them know what they are doing, whether it be moving forward, backward, or approaching a crossing or tunnel. Thank you. Let's keep working on this so that everyone complies. ***

FALL MEET HELPERS

Ken Nelson

Registration – Ed Eggleston, Chairperson; Karl Pickles and Marcel Zucchini

Lift – Wayne Singer, Warren Hockaday, Joe Kavanagh, and Charlie Pellock

Emporium – Penny Landgraf, Chairperson; Bobbie Nelson, and Suzanne Weinreich

Gauge One – Robert Mansfield, Chairperson, Ben Maggi, Lance, Brett, and Chad Sherman

Trash – Ted Wilming, Chairperson

Safety – Ted Wilming, Chairperson

Track Maintenance and Repairs – John Camerota, Chairperson; Dick Hosmer, Bob Hosmer, Steve Ianno, and Skip Densing

Food – Mike Petrillose, Chairperson; Ray Dwyer, Nancy French, Charlie Pellock, Norah Singer, Pete Petrillose and family, Richard Dean, Amy Dean, Steve Ianno, Mark Landgraf, Don Buesing, Chuck Currey, Bobbie Nelson, Ben Maggi, and Catherine Ogden

Club House Cleanup – Ken Friedel, Jr., Bob Ingram, Ted Wilming, Ray Bush, Lance Sherman, Brett Sherman, Chad Sherman, Dave French, Tom Rhodes, Jim Ogden, and Henry Propst

Passenger Train Conductors – Chuck Currey, Ted Wilming, John Camerota, and Bud Weinreich

I hope I didn't miss anyone, but if I did, please forgive me. We really appreciate the help of all who participated. ***

* * * * *

FALL MEET VISITORS

Dick Hosmer

I know I didn't see everyone who attended, but here is a list, in no special order, of some of our visitors and the locomotives they brought.

Wayne Singer – Kozo Climax and a Speeder

John Lukasavage Jr. – Pennsy K4 4-6-2, and a Mikado

George Parsons and Ron Cicchini – LV Doodlebug

Paul Kurtz – DSP&P 2-6-6T

Joseph-Jean Paques – 0-4-0 Saddletanker

Ron Henderson

Bob Latino

Paul Pool

Several ALS members including Warren Hockaday, Jonathan Hockaday, Bud Bentley, Dick Hosmer, Ken Nelson, Richard Dean, Ray Dwyer, Dave French, Henry Propst, and Marcel Zucchini

Total attendance: Thursday-29
 Friday – 57

Saturday - 92
Sunday - 30

KAYADEROSS & SOUTHERN ADIRONDACK RAILROAD

Brad Peterson

Part II

Editor's note: This is the continuation of a series begun last month.

Since the K&SA is a private venture, progress is relatively slow. I know what I want for a railroad, and I know generally where it will go, but time and money are definitely an object.

Early in the summer of our second construction season, my wife suggested I use some vacation time for dedicated workdays and we could jump start our little line. At this point, there was only 120 feet built with lots left to do to get it into shape. After some planning sessions, we came up with our own 'meets' and we invited everyone possible to come over and work on the railroad. We supplied all the workers with food (usually homemade) and entertainment (me running around trying to keep everyone occupied) for the day. So far these have been very enjoyable days and I have met some new and very industrious people. I think now after a dozen or so meets, I can say I have a core group of regulars and can count on them for a good day of work, food, and fun.

Our 2008 workdays were focused on

building the next 120 feet of track. We officially started in September and began the next step in construction. The roadbed was in place and just needed a little touch up before the new rail arrived. While we waited, lots of work was underway. We had ties to cut, weed barrier to lay in place, and the start of a tight curve to get surveyed. When the rail arrived, it was time for lunch. This was a short break since we were all looking forward to the afternoon's work.

We were very new at track building then so only around thirty to forty feet were finished that day. I got out there for a few hours a week before the next month's meet and had all but the last fifteen feet finished which included Cole's Crossing. Trains ran slowly since there was still no stone to grade the line, but at least I could run.

The last workday of the year in November saw a four-ton pile of stone spread over the entire 220 feet of installed track. Along with grading and tamping, some joint bars got upgraded and a few ties as well. Before the snow flew, my short railroad was as finished as I could get it. ***

(Continued next month)

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HAVE WE SEEN YOU LATELY?

Have you been able to come to the club grounds ten times this year? If so, we enjoyed having your company. If not, we missed you.

You don't have to work every time you attend. Come up for an hour or so and just visit with us, perhaps during lunch. Or come on up and ask for a ride with one of our members who has his train out. Or, if you have a locomotive,

take it around a few times just for fun. We have several locos in the Engine House and Car Barn that we haven't seen operate very often. Why not give them some exercise?

And of course, helping is always welcome, if only for a short time. Why not join us for Blowdown? We'd love to see you. ***

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

First Class

NOTE PAD

October 8 – Membership Meeting-10 AM
Nominations
October 15-16 – Blowdown
November 12 – Membership Meeting
Elections
December 4 – Albany Train Show
January 1 – New Year's Day Run

BLOWDOWN

TWO FINAL DAYS